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MOON GIRL

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NO. 7

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FIGHTS CRIME!

FEATURING "THE FIENDS WHO FIGHT WITH FIRE"

"Enjoy Hilarious "Monkey-Shines" at your next Masquerade Party WITH THESE AMAZING LIFE-LIKE

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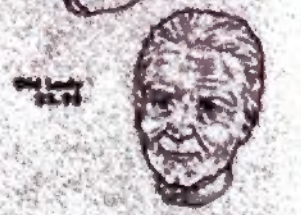
COVER ENTIRE HEAD . . . LAST FOR YEARS . . . SO LIFELIKE PEOPLE GASP WITH AMAZEMENT AND DELIGHT... Mold-Art Rubber Masks are molded from best grade natural flexible rubber. They cover the entire head. Yet you see thru the "eyes." The mouth moves with your lips . . . you breathe . . . smoke . . . talk . . . even eat thru it. Hand-painted for realism. Wonderful for every dress-up occasion—for parties or gifts. Fun for children and adults alike.



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NAME.....
STREET.....P.O. ZONE.....
CITY.....STATE.....

Moon Girl, May-June, 1949—Vol. 1, No. 7. Published Bi-Monthly by I. C. Publishing Co., Inc., at 225 Lafayette St., New York 12, N. Y. William M. Gaines, Editor. Entered as second class matter November 24, 1947, at the Post Office at New York, N. Y. under the Act of March 3, 1879. One year subscription in the U. S. 60c, plus 15c, postage—total 75c—elsewhere $1.50. Except those who have authorized use of their names, the stories, characters and incidents mentioned in this periodical are entirely imaginary and fictitious and no identification with actual persons, living or dead, is intended or should be inferred.
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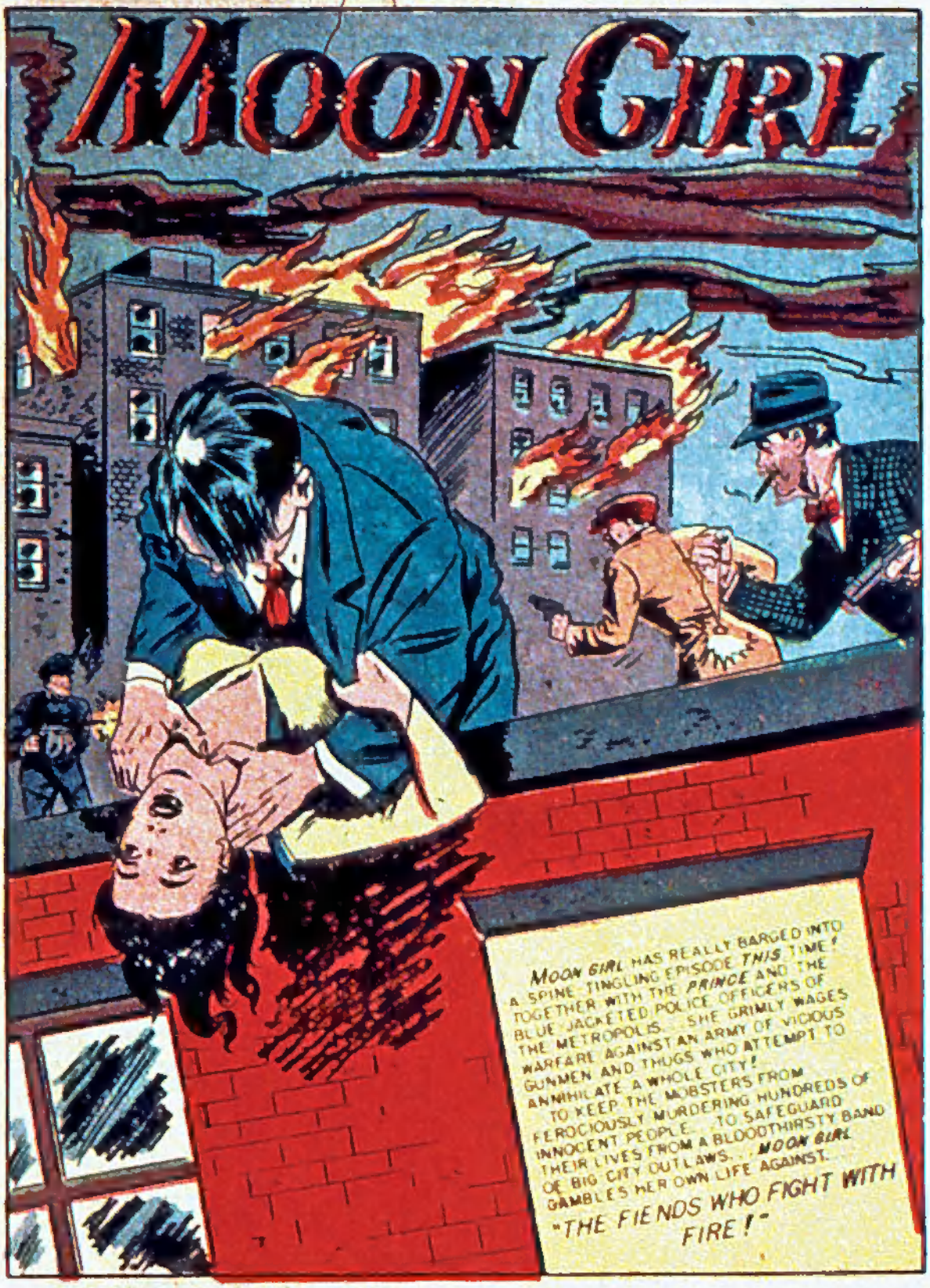
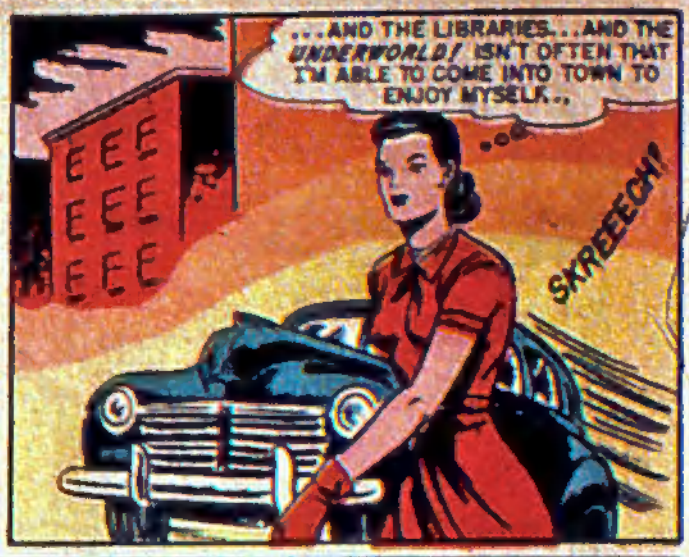

MOON GIRL
MOON GIRL HAS REALLY BARGED INTO A SPINE-TINGLING EPISODE THIS TIME! TOGETHER WITH THE PRINCE AND THE BLUE-JACKETED POLICE OFFICERS OF THE METROPOLIS... SHE GRIMLY WAGES WARFARE AGAINST AN ARMY OF VICIOUS GUNMEN AND THUGS WHO ATTEMPT TO ANNIHILATE A WHOLE CITY! TO KEEP THE MOBSTERS FROM FEROCIOUSLY MURDERING HUNDREDS OF INNOCENT PEOPLE... TO SAFEGUARD THEIR LIVES FROM A BLOODTHIRSTY BAND OF BIG-CITY OUTLAWS... MOON GIRL GAMBLES HER OWN LIFE AGAINST "THE FIENDS WHO FIGHT WITH FIRE!"

ON ONE OF THE SIDE STREETS OF THE BIG CITY...
THIS WEEK'S VACATION GIVES ME A FINE OPPORTUNITY TO HAVE A CLOSE LOOK AT METROPOLIS... AT THE SLUMS...


...AND THE LIBRARIES...AND THE UNDERWORLD! ISN'T OFTEN THAT I'M ABLE TO COME INTO TOWN TO ENJOY MYSELF...
SKREEECH!

...ULPP! T-THAT CAR... TURNED THE CORNER ON TWO WHEELS...ALMOST CLIPPED ME!
WATCH WHERE YER GOIN', SISTER....

W-WATCH WHERE I'M GOING? IMAGINE HIS NERVE... GULPP! THERE'S ANOTHER ONE...
SKREEECH!

IF I HADN'T PROMISED LIONEL THAT I WAS GOING TO ENJOY MYSELF HERE... THIS MIGHT BE A JOB FOR MOON GIRL! BUT THEN AGAIN... IT MAY NOT BE ANYTHING OUT OF THE ORDINARY ...PERHAPS JUST BIG-CITY DRIVERS!

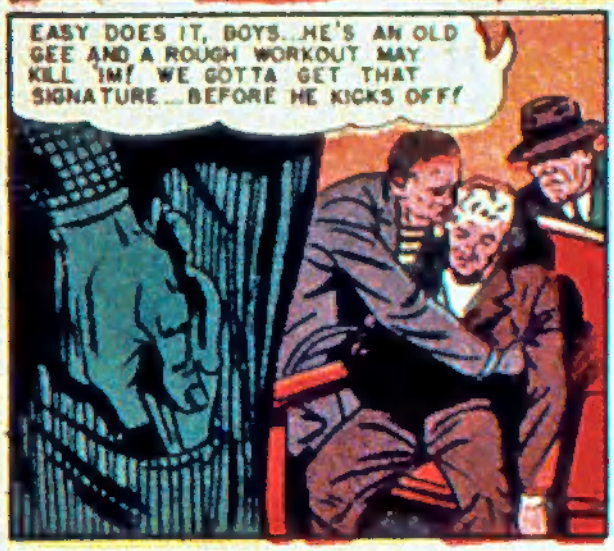
CLARE CONTINUES ON HER SEARCH FOR ENJOYMENT... BUT THE STRANGE HURRYING AUTOMOBILES... WELL, THAT'S SOMETHING ELSE AGAIN...!
PULL UP HERE, JERRY.... THAT HOUSE NEAR THE CORNER! THAT'S WHERE WE DO OUR STUFF!

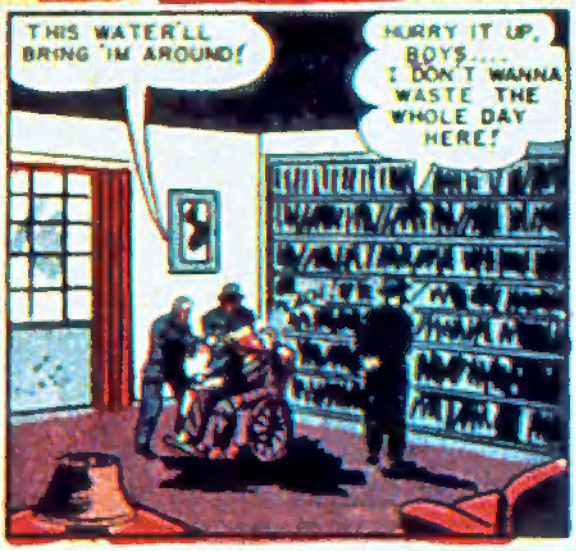
SEE TO IT THAT I AIN'T DISTURBED! A COUPLA YOU BOYS C'MON IN WITH ME... IN CASE THIS GUY'S STUBBORN!

AND THERE'S OUR OFFER FER THEM TENEMENT HOUSES YA OWN, SUTTON! FIVE BUCKS FER EACH BUILDING... WHAT'TA YA SAY?
THIS IS OUT-RAGEOUS... I'-I'LL CALL THE POLICE....

THE BOSS DON'T LIKE TO HAVE NO ONE THREATEN HIM WITH THE POLICE, SEE? I THINK YA BETTER SIGN THE PAPER...OR ELSE!
I-I WON'T. YOU CAN'T INTIMIDATE ME...I....

THERE AIN'T NUTHIN' THE BOSS CAN'T DO, UNNERSTAND?
UGH!


EASY DOES IT, BOYS...HE'S AN OLD GEE AND A ROUGH WORKOUT MAY KILL 'IM! WE GOTTA GET THAT SIGNATURE...BEFORE HE KICKS OFF!


THIS WATER'LL BRING 'IM AROUND!
HURRY IT UP, BOYS.... I DON'T WANNA WASTE THE WHOLE DAY HERE!

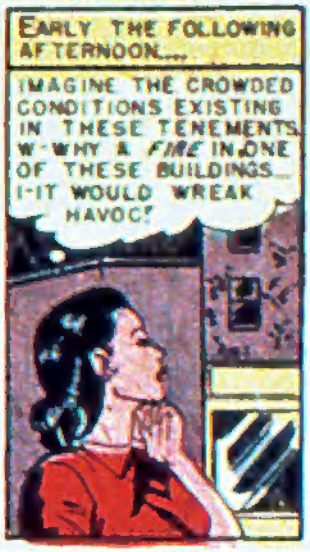
HERE'S THE PEN AND PAPER, SUTTON...WE'D HATE TO GET ROUGH WITH AN OLD CODGER LIKE YOU, BUT...
NO-NO...I-I'LL... SIGN...

THERE'S HIS JOHN HANCOCK, BOSS... NICE AND NEAT... AND RIGHT ON THE DOTTED LINE!
SWELL...THE OLD GUY IS SMART AND REASONABLE...

....TAKE CARE OF HIM REAL QUICK... WITHOUT NOISE IF POSSIBLE!
Y-YOU CAN'T DO THIS TO ME....I SIGNED THE PAPER LIKE YOU TOLD ME.....

THEM TENEMENTS ARE OURS NOW, BOYS...NEXT WE GOTTA GET THEM INSURED AND DECIDE WHICH OF THE BUILDINGS TO USE AS WAREHOUSES!

AIEEE!
I TOLD THEM GUYS TO DO IT AS QUIET AS POSSIBLE! WHATTA THEY TRYIN' TO DO....WAKE UP THE WHOLE NEIGHBORHOOD? GET ABOARD, WE GOT MORE WORK.....

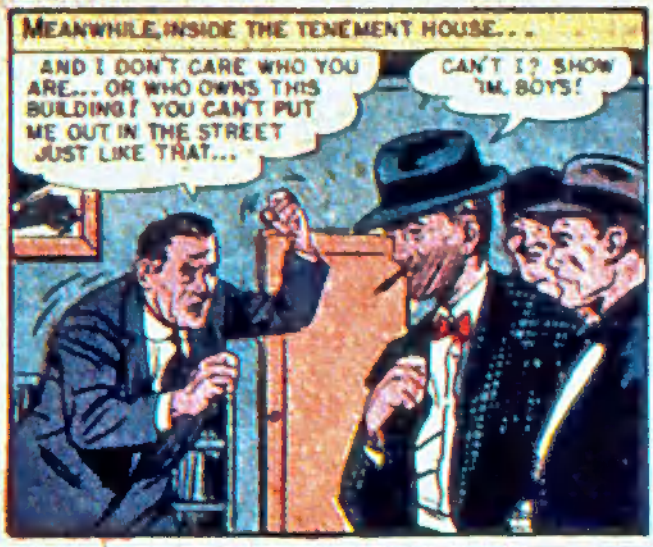

EARLY THE FOLLOWING AFTERNOON....
IMAGINE THE CROWDED CONDITIONS EXISTING IN THESE TENEMENTS. W-WHY A FIRE IN ONE OF THESE BUILDINGS... I-IT WOULD WREAK HAVOC!

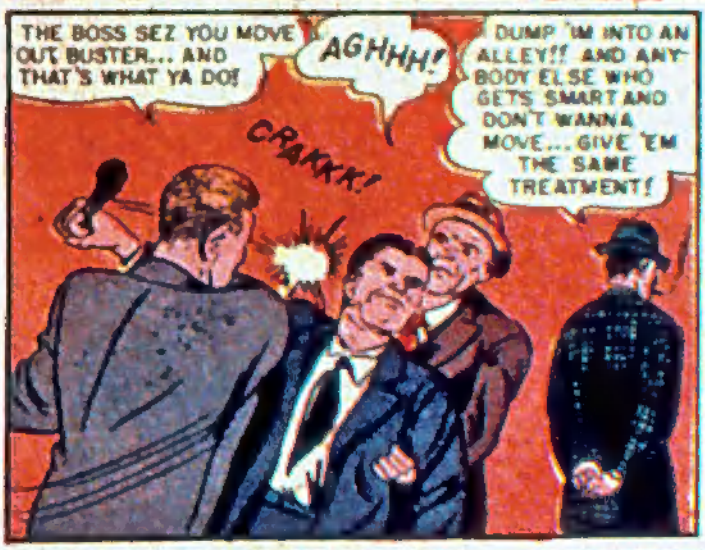
S-SAY...WHO DO YOU THINK YOU'RE PUSHING?
OUTTA THE WAY, GOILIE...WE GOT BIZNESS IN HERE! IF YA WANNA STAND AROUND AND GAWK... PICK A QUIETER SPOT!

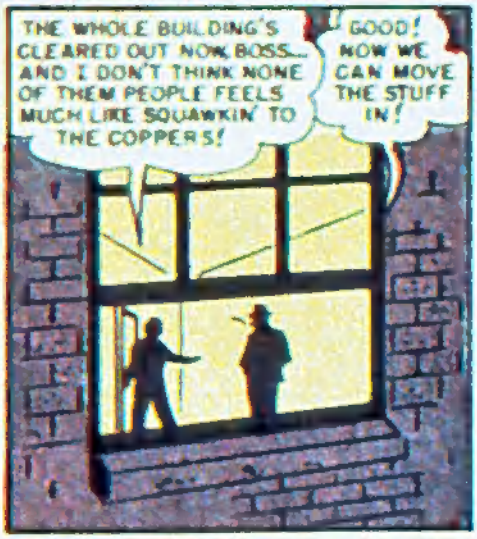
I HAVE A SNEAKING SUSPICION THAT I'VE MET YOU GENTLEMEN SOMEPLACE BEFORE...
RUN ALONG, GOILIE...BEFORE YA GET HOIT!

IF THIS WASN'T MY VACATION... AND I HADN'T PROMISED LIONEL... I'D LIKE TO TEACH THOSE TIN-HORNS A GOOD LESSON....

OH, WELL... NOTHING TO LOSE MY TEMPER ABOUT! TYPICAL OF BIG-CITY PEOPLE... ALWAYS IN A TERRIBLE HURRY!


MEANWHILE, INSIDE THE TENEMENT HOUSE...
AND I DON'T CARE WHO YOU ARE... OR WHO OWNS THIS BUILDING! YOU CAN'T PUT ME OUT IN THE STREET JUST LIKE THAT...
CAN'T I? SHOW 'IM, BOYS!


THE BOSS SEZ YOU MOVE OUT, BUSTER... AND THAT'S WHAT YA DO!
AGHHH!
CRAKK!
DUMP 'IM INTO AN ALLEY!! AND ANYBODY ELSE WHO GETS SMART AND DON'T WANNA MOVE... GIVE 'EM THE SAME TREATMENT!


THE WHOLE BUILDING'S CLEARED OUT NOW, BOSS... AND I DON'T THINK NONE OF THEM PEOPLE FEELS MUCH LIKE SQUAWKIN' TO THE COPPERS!
GOOD! NOW WE CAN MOVE THE STUFF IN!

TWO HOURS LATER...
THAT'S THE LAST OF THE STUFF, BOSS... JUST ABOUT SQUEEZED IT INTO THESE TWO TENEMENTS!
GREAT! NOW WE GOTTA WORK FAST... BEFORE THAT INSURANCE COMPANY BECOMES NOSEY... AND ASKS WHAT A WAREHOUSE IS DOING DOWN IN THIS SECTION!

THE NEXT MORNING...
ISN'T THAT NICE... LIONEL WRITES THAT HE PLANS TO DRIVE DOWN THIS AFTERNOON FROM RAWLEY... HE'LL LOOK ME UP AT MY HOTEL... AND GIVE ME A HITCH BACK NOW!

'SCUSE US, LADY... WE'RE IN AN AWFUL HURRY!
W-WATCH OUT... YOU'RE CROWDING ME OFF THE SIDEWALK!
OOOOF!

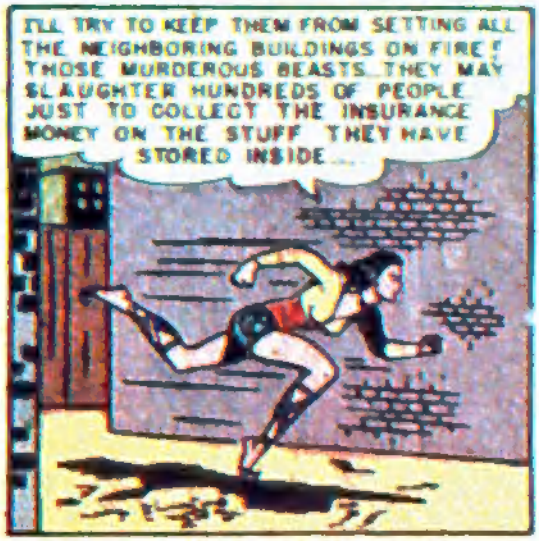
THOSE ARE THE SAME MEN... THEY SEEM TO BE IN A TERRIBLE HURRY ALL THE TIME! I CAN'T SEEM TO KEEP OUT OF THEIR WAY... I THINK I'LL JUST FOLLOW THEM TO SEE WHAT ALL THE FUSS IS ABOUT!

T-THAT SIGN... IT'S NEW! PEOPLE WERE LIVING IN THAT HOUSE ONLY YESTERDAY! SOMETHING IS UP... I'LL MEET LIONEL... AND COME BACK HERE AND NOSE AROUND A BIT!

A FEW HOURS LATER... AT THE APPOINTED MEETING PLACE....
HI, CLARE... RIGHT ON TIME! HOP IN... WE'LL GO FOR A LITTLE PLEASURE JAUNT!
NOT TODAY... WE'VE GOT A LITTLE INVESTIGATING TO DO! HEAD FOR THE TENEMENT SECTION... SOMETHING FUNNY GOING ON THERE!

THIS IS SURE A PUNK WAY TO SPEND A DAY IN THE BIG CITY.... WATCHING FOR SOMETHING THAT MAY NOT HAPPEN! I....
LIONEL! UP THERE... ON THE ROOF... FLAMES!

HURRY, LIONEL... BRING THE POLICE AND FIRE DEPARTMENTS! THEY MUST BE PLANNING TO COLLECT INSURANCE ON THE STUFF THEY STORE IN THOSE BUILDINGS... BUT THEY'RE ENDANGERING THE LIVES OF EVERYONE WHO LIVES IN THE NEARBY TENEMENTS!
I'LL BE BACK.... AS SOON AS I CAN!


I'LL TRY TO KEEP THEM FROM SETTING ALL THE NEIGHBORING BUILDINGS ON FIRE! THOSE MURDEROUS BEASTS... THEY MAY SLAUGHTER HUNDREDS OF PEOPLE JUST TO COLLECT THE INSURANCE MONEY ON THE STUFF THEY HAVE STORED INSIDE....

THIS MAY RESULT IN MASS MURDER... UNLESS WE CAN STOP THE FIRE FROM... AGHHHH!
COME INTO MY PARLOR SAID THE SPIDER! I BEEN WATCHIN' YOU SISTER... YER DRESSED FER A MASQUERADE....
CRAKKK!

...BUT YER HEADED FER YER OWN FUNERAL! THE BOSS'LL BE GLAD TO KNOW THAT I CAUGHT YA SNOOPIN' AROUND OUTSIDE...

HEY, BOSS! LOOK WHAT I CAUGHT... SNOOPIN' AROUND OUTSIDE!
A-A DAME! NOPE, SHE DIDN'T HAVE NO CHANCE TO CALL THE COPPERS! NOT UNTIL WE GET THIS BLAZE GOIN' GOOD, ANYWAYS!

YA KNOCKED 'ER COLDER THAN A MACKEREL, TRIGGER! HMMMM... LOOKIT THIS NECKLACE SHE'S GOT... A NIFTY LI'L NUMBER...

THINK I'LL KEEP IT. SHE WON'T NEED IT ANYWAYS... NOT IN ABOUT TEN MINUTES, WHEN SHE GOES UP IN SMOKE! START LIGHTIN' UP ALL THE BUILDIN'S, BOYS!

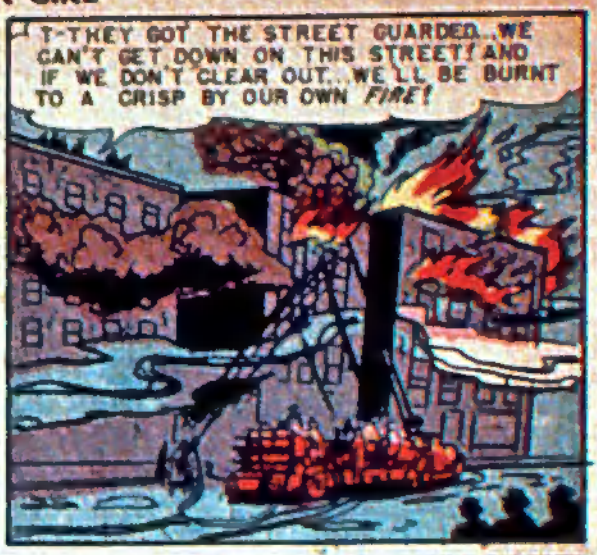
WE'LL LEAVE THE DAME HERE... TO BURN! LET'S GET THE TENEMENTS WE'RE USIN' AS WAREHOUSES TO GO UP FIRST. THEN AS WE RETREAT ACROSS THE ROOFS OF THE NEARBY TENEMENTS... WE'LL SET THEM AFIRE! WE'LL COLLECT INSURANCE ON ALL OF 'EM ANYWAYS... 'CAUSE WE OWN THE WHOLE KIT AND KABOODLE! WOT'TA LAUGH!

OOOOOH! MY HEAD... FEELS LIKE I RAN INTO A STONE WALL! W-WHERE AM I... THE TENEMENTS... WAREHOUSE... FIRE! O-OF COURSE... I CAME TO INVESTIGATE... I-I MUST GET OUT OF HERE!

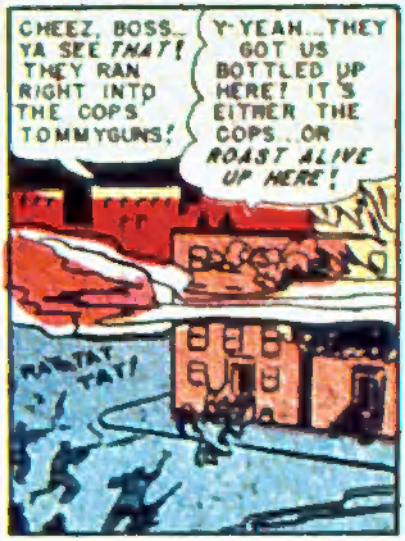
THOSE FLAMES... COMING AWFULLY CLOSE! T-THE DOOR... IT'S LOCKED! AND MY MOONSTONE... GONE! I-IF ONLY THE PRINCE...

THERE SHE GOES, BOYS!
HEAVE-NO!
CRASHHH!

MEANWHILE, ON THE ROOFTOPS, ABOVE WHAT HAS BECOME A RAGING INFERNO OF FLAME...
T-THE COPS...AND THE FIREMEN! SOMEONE MUSTA CALLED 'EM! OUR BEST BET IS TO SCRAM ACROSS THESE ROOFTOPS...AND HOPE THAT IT'S TOO LATE FER 'EM TO STOP THE FIRES!


T-THEY GOT THE STREET GUARDED...WE CAN'T GET DOWN ON THIS STREET! AND IF WE DON'T CLEAR OUT...WE'LL BE BURNT TO A CRISP BY OUR OWN FIRE!

T-THIS IS THE LAST HOUSE....C-CAN'T GO NO FURTHER! Y-YOU BOYS GO DOWN TO THE STREET FROM HERE...SEE IF YOU CAN CLEAR A CORRIDOR FER ME THROUGH THE POLICE... ONLY CHANCE!
G-GOTCHA, BOSS....


CHEEZ, BOSS... YA SEE THAT! THEY RAN RIGHT INTO THE COPS' TOMMYGUNS!
Y-YEAH...THEY GOT US BOTTLED UP HERE! IT'S EITHER THE COPS...OR ROAST ALIVE UP HERE!
RAT-TAT TAT!

ONLY CHANCE IS FER US TO BREAK UP... EACH GO DOWN ONE OF THE TENEMENTS... TRY TO MINGLE WITH THE CROWD...MAKE BELIEVE WE'RE VICTIMS LIKE THE REST!

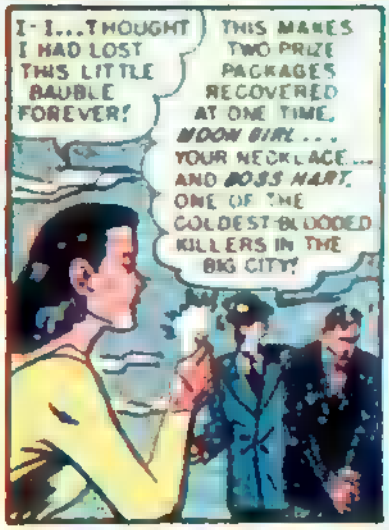
I-IT'S... THAT DAME, AGAIN!
AIN'T NUTHIN' GONNA STOP ME FROM MAKIN' A GETAWAY!

T-TAKE CARE OF HER...I'LL GO DOWN ONE OF THESE OTHER TENEMENTS! AIN'T GOT MUCH TIME
SAY YER PRAYERS, SISTER... YER GOIN' OVER THE SIDE...
G-GASP!

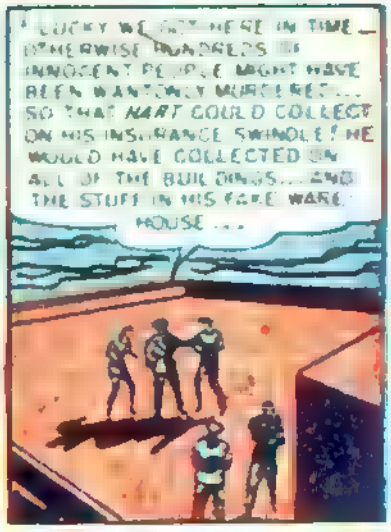
...NOT IF I CAN HELP IT!
A!EEE!

Y-YA'LL NEVER CATCH ME ALIVE... I'LL DO A SWAN-DIVE FIRST...
NOT IF WE CAN HELP IT! YER THE ONLY REMAINING MEMBER OF THIS GANG OF MURDEROUS CUT-THROATS...

...AND THERE ARE A LOT OF QUESTIONS TO BE ANSWERED!
OOO OFF!
M-MY MOONSTONE NECKLACE...IN HIS POCKET!


I-I...THOUGHT I HAD LOST THIS LITTLE BAUBLE FOREVER!
THIS MAKES TWO PRIZE PACKAGES RECOVERED AT ONE TIME, MOON GIRL... YOUR NECKLACE... AND BOSS HART, ONE OF THE COLDEST-BLOODED KILLERS IN THE BIG CITY!

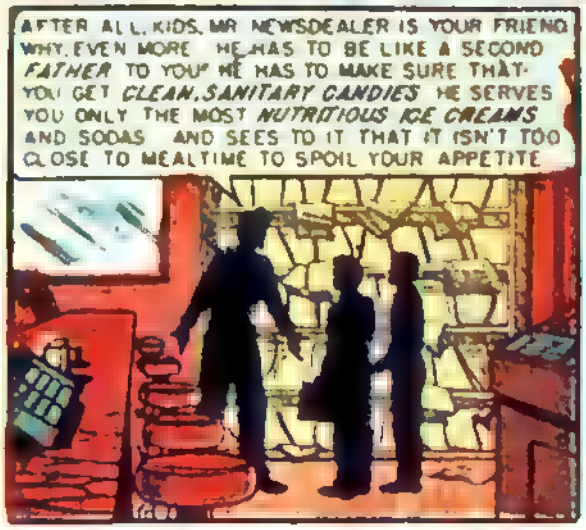
CAN'T THANK YOU ENOUGH, MOON GIRL AND PRINCE... FOR HELPING US ON THIS JOB! THE FIRE S JUST ABOUT FINISHED... AND THE LOSS OF LIFE, FORTUNATELY, WAS LOW...EXCEPT FOR HART'S GANG...WHICH WAS PRACTI CALLY WIPED OUT WHEN THEY MADE A BREAK FOR IT!

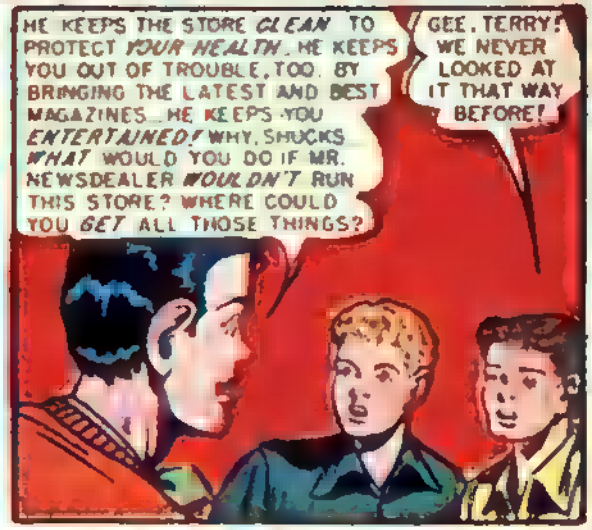

LUCKY WE GOT HERE IN TIME — OTHERWISE HUNDREDS OF INNOCENT PEOPLE MIGHT HAVE BEEN WANTONLY MURDERED... SO THAT HART COULD COLLECT ON HIS INSURANCE SWINDLE! HE WOULD HAVE COLLECTED ON ALL OF THE BUILDINGS... AND THE STUFF IN HIS FAKE WARE HOUSE...

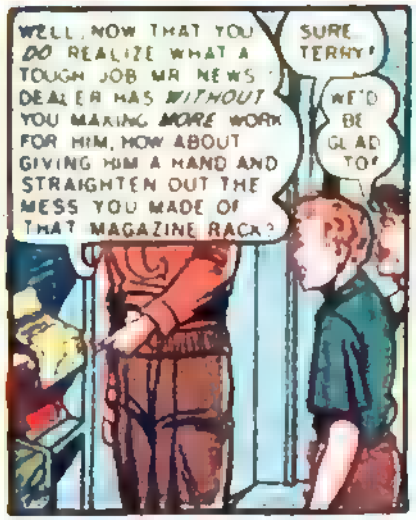
H-HEY! W-WHAT ARE YOU DOING? D-DID YOU FALL ON YOUR HEAD IN THAT TUSSLE YOU HAD? OR....
NOTHING LIKE THAT, INSPECTOR...

...IT'S JUST THAT RIGHT NOW MATCH-STICKS GIVE ME THE CREEPS... I'M A LITTLE CAUTIOUS OF SMURE... AND FLAMES! LET'S GO PRINCE...
...BACK HOME... WHERE IT'S QUIET... AND PEACEFUL!

YOUR NEWSDEALER-HE IS YOUR FRIEND!



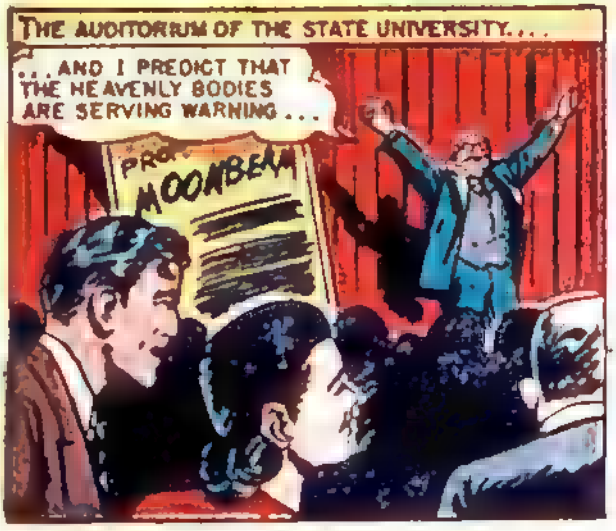


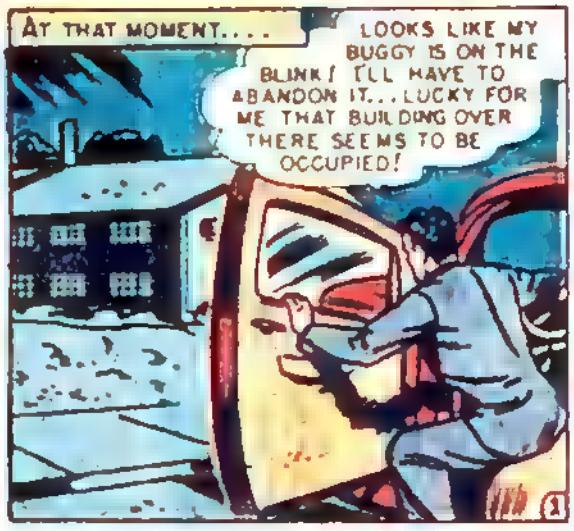


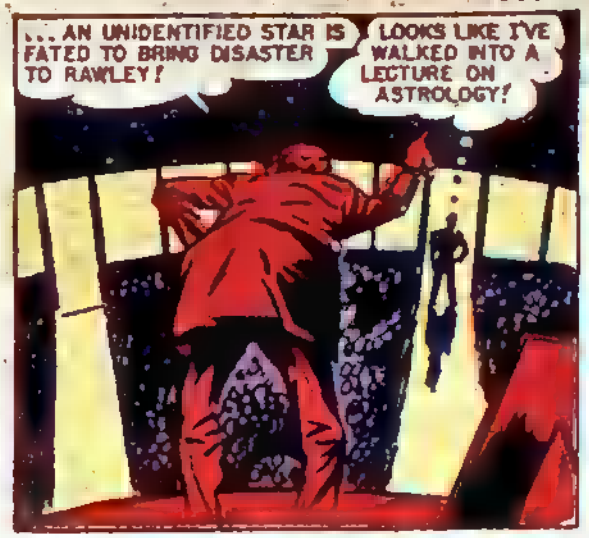
MOON GIRL

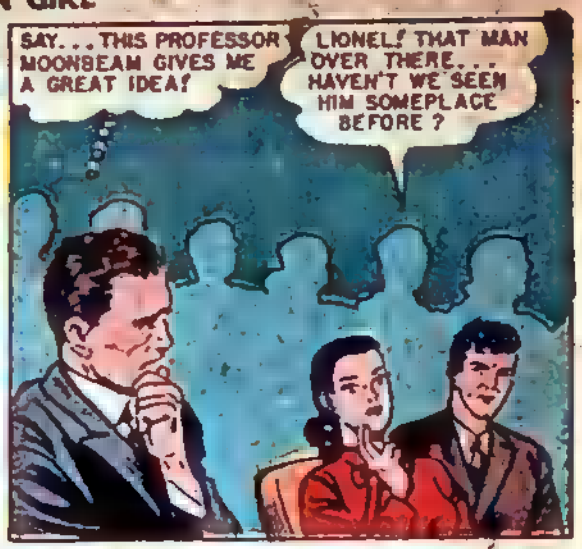
THIS APPEARED TO BE A TITANIC BATTLE AGAINST THE ELEMENTS IN WHICH *MOON GIRL* WAS ENGAGED! COULD SHE AND THE *PRINCE* SUCCESSFULLY PROTECT THE CITY OF RAWLEY FROM WHAT WAS WRITTEN IN THE COSMOS? WOULD SHE BE ABLE TO STAVE OFF THE FUTURE, AS PREDICTED BY,

"THE MAN WHO PLAYED WITH THE STARS!"



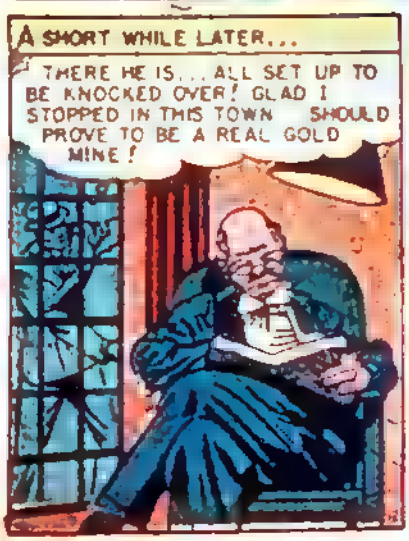



...AN UNIDENTIFIED STAR IS FATED TO BRING DISASTER TO RAWLEY!
LOOKS LIKE I'VE WALKED INTO A LECTURE ON ASTROLOGY!


SAY...THIS PROFESSOR MOONBEAM GIVES ME A GREAT IDEA!
LIONEL! THAT MAN OVER THERE... HAVEN'T WE SEEN HIM SOMEPLACE BEFORE?

SINCE I'M STUCK HERE ANYWAY... I'LL HAVE A LITTLE CONFERENCE WITH THIS MOONBEAM!
I CAN'T SEEM TO PLACE HIM...BUT I'M *SURE* I KNOW HIM FROM SOMEPLACE, LIONEL!

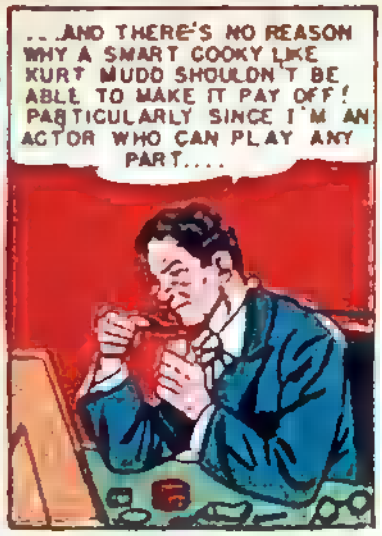
HE'S PROBABLY SOMEONE FROM TOWN HERE, CLARE...
I-I DON'T THINK SO... SOMETHING STRANGE ABOUT THAT MAN... AND VERY DISTURBING! HMMMM.


A SHORT WHILE LATER...
THERE HE IS...ALL SET UP TO BE KNOCKED OVER! GLAD I STOPPED IN THIS TOWN SHOULD PROVE TO BE A REAL GOLD MINE!

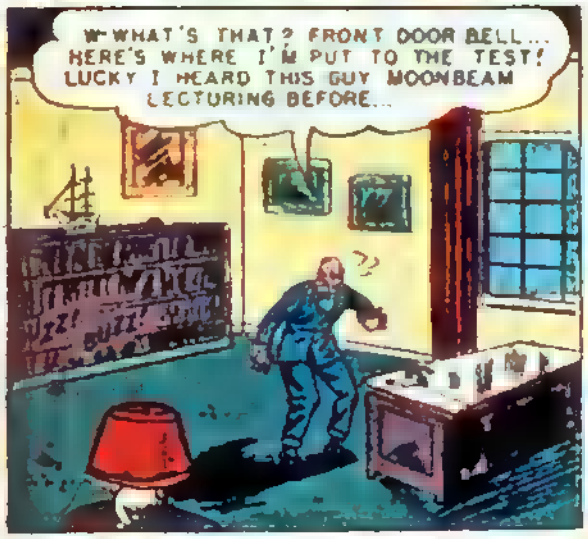
IN JUST ANOTHER MINUTE...

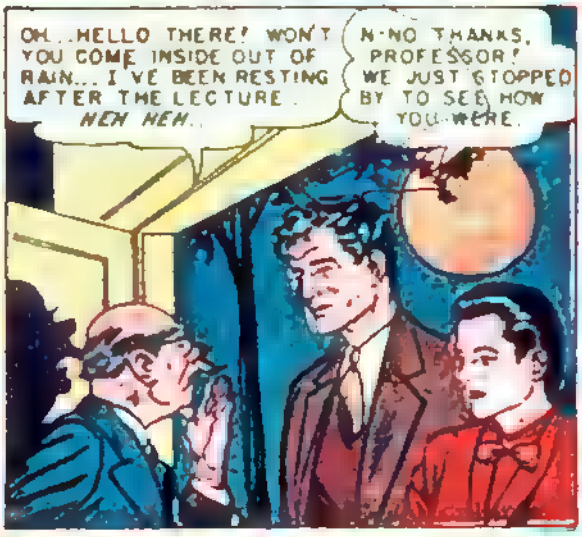
THAT'S A GOOD BOY, PROFESSOR...SLEEP TIGHT! JUST LONG ENOUGH TO GIVE ME A CHANCE...

...TO PUT YOU OUT OF THE WAY FOR A SHORT WHILE! THIS PREDICTING THE FUTURE IS A GOOD RACKET YOU'VE GOT HERE...


...AND THERE'S NO REASON WHY A SMART COOKY LIKE KURT MUDD SHOULDN'T BE ABLE TO MAKE IT PAY OFF! PARTICULARLY SINCE I'M AN ACTOR WHO CAN PLAY ANY PART....

...AS WELL AS BEING FAMOUS AS THE MASTER MAKE-UP MAN! FIRST THING I'VE GOT TO DO IS CALL MY BOYS AND TELL 'EM TO HURRY OUT HERE!

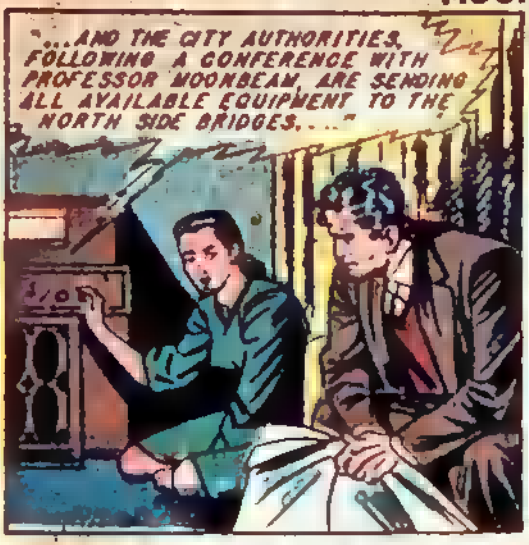

W-WHAT'S THAT? FRONT DOOR BELL... HERE'S WHERE I'M PUT TO THE TEST! LUCKY I HEARD THIS GUY MOONBEAM LECTURING BEFORE...

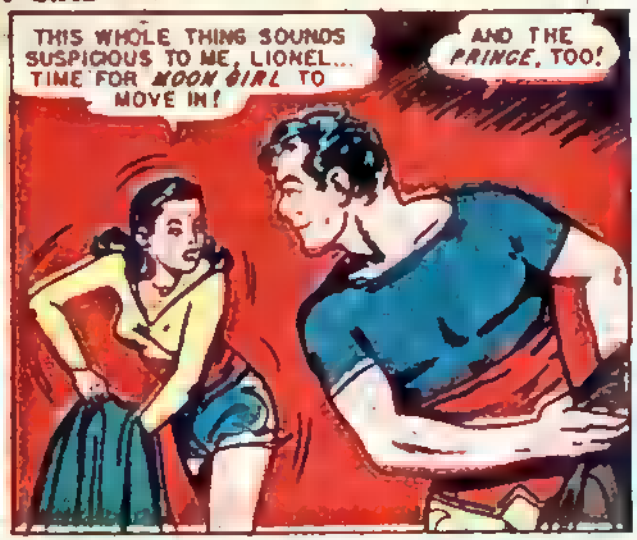

OH...HELLO THERE! WON'T YOU COME INSIDE OUT OF RAIN... I'VE BEEN RESTING AFTER THE LECTURE. HEM HEM..
N-NO THANKS, PROFESSOR! WE JUST STOPPED BY TO SEE HOW YOU WERE.

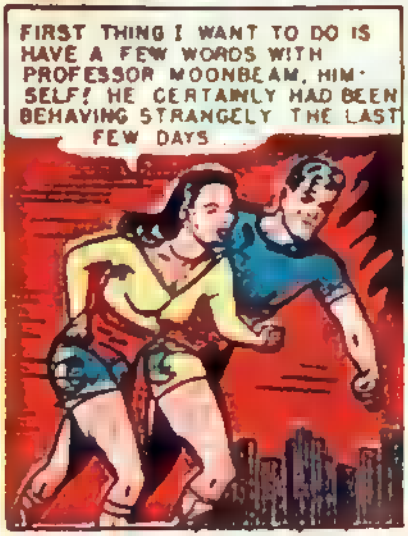
HMMM STRANGE HE DIDN'T INSIST WE STAY FOR AWHILE!
SOMETHING FUNNY ABOUT THIS. HE DIDN'T SEEM TO RECOGNIZE US! AND THAT LAUGH..

THE NEXT DAY, TURMOIL REIGNS THROUGHOUT RAWLEY....
WUXTRY! WUXTRY! CITY BUILDINGS BURN TO THE GROUND...PREDICTED BY PROFESSOR MOONBEAM OF STATE UNIVERSITY! WUXTRY!
HUH?

"HIS KNOWLEDGE OF ASTROLOGY PROMPTED THE PROFESSOR TO MAKE HIS STARTLING PREDICTIONS THIS MORNING. AND HE WARNS OF MORE DISASTERS TO COME IN THE VERY NEAR FUTURE!"
AT THAT VERY MOMENT...
COME RIGHT IN, MISTER MAYOR... SO GLAD THAT YOU WERE ABLE TO COME OVER TO CONFER WITH ME ON THESE FEARFUL HAPPENINGS I SEE IN THE STARS!
...AND THAT'S WHAT WE HAVE IN STORE FOR US... BY SOME MEANS THE BRIDGES AT THE NORTH SIDE OF TOWN ARE DOOMED TO BURN AND COLLAPSE!
THANK YOU, PROFESSOR... I'VE GOT TO DECLARE AN EMERGENCY IMMEDIATELY! CALL OUT ALL THE POLICE AND FIRE EQUIPMENT TO THE NORTH SIDE OF TOWN...
B-BUT.. YOUR TEA...
HEH HEH! SEE THEM JERKS GO RACING OUT OF HERE... WHAT A LAUGH! C'MON OUT, BOYS...
PREDICTING THAT FIRE IN THE CITY BUILDING... AND THEN HAVING US START ONE SURE WORKED SWELL, DIDN'T IT, BOSS? NOW THEY'RE SET TO BELIEVE ANYTHING YOU "PREDICT"!
HEH HEH! AND NOW THAT THEY'RE CLEARING ALL THE POLICE FROM THE SOUTH SIDE...WE CAN MOVE IN AND CLEAN IT OUT! THIS ASTROLOGY SURE IS A SOFT RACKET!

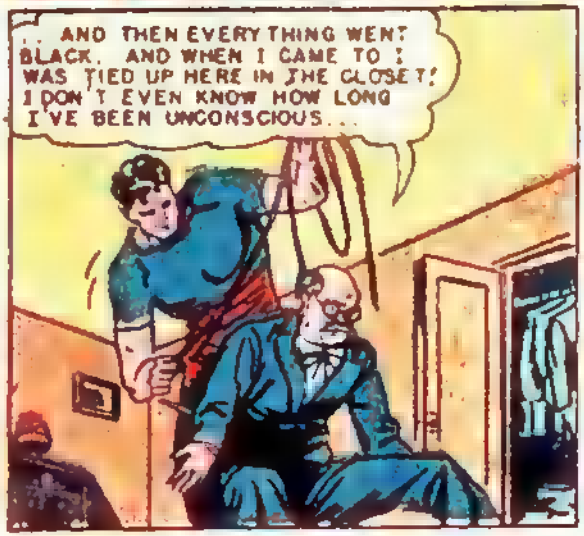

"...AND THE CITY AUTHORITIES, FOLLOWING A CONFERENCE WITH PROFESSOR MOONBEAM, ARE SENDING ALL AVAILABLE EQUIPMENT TO THE NORTH SIDE BRIDGES...."


THIS WHOLE THING SOUNDS SUSPICIOUS TO ME, LIONEL... TIME FOR MOON GIRL TO MOVE IN!
AND THE PRINCE, TOO!

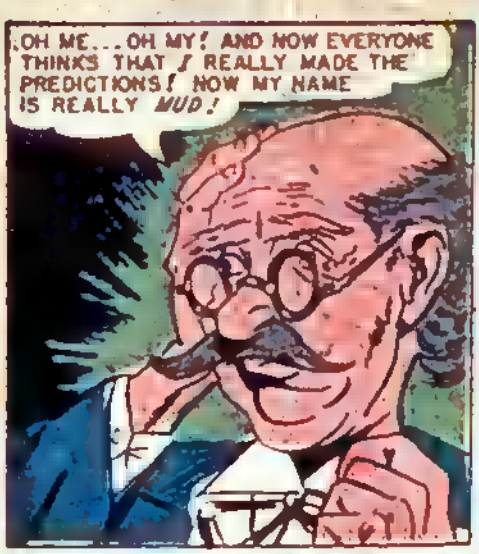

FIRST THING I WANT TO DO IS HAVE A FEW WORDS WITH PROFESSOR MOONBEAM, HIMSELF! HE CERTAINLY HAD BEEN BEHAVING STRANGELY THE LAST FEW DAYS...

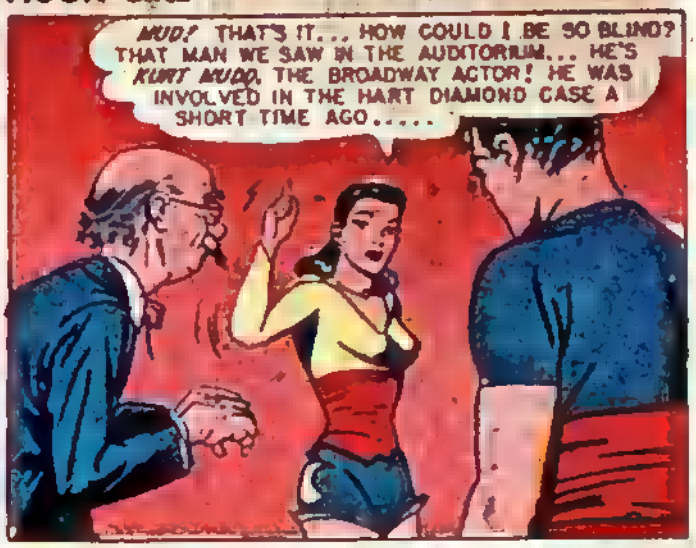
HE DOESN'T SEEM TO BE IN HERE!
HE ISN'T ANYPLACE IN THE HOUSE... THIS BEGINS TO LOOK FUNNIER AND FUNNIER... NOT AT ALL LIKE THE PROFESSOR TO GO SCARING PEOPLE OUT OF THEIR WITS...

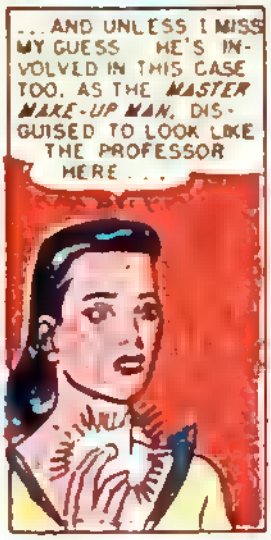
ONLY THING LEFT TO DO IS ASK THE MOONSTONE TO LEAD US TO WHAT'S THAT?
SOUNDS AS IF IT'S COMING FROM THAT HALL CLOSET...
SCRATCH!
SCRATCH!


...AND THEN EVERYTHING WENT BLACK. AND WHEN I CAME TO I WAS TIED UP HERE IN THE CLOSET! I DON'T EVEN KNOW HOW LONG I'VE BEEN UNCONSCIOUS...

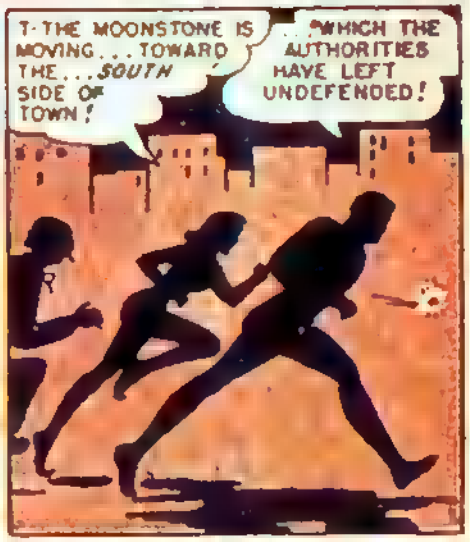
LONG ENOUGH FOR SOME ONE TO DISGUISE HIMSELF AS YOU... MAKE SEVERAL PREDICTIONS THAT CAME TRUE, STRANGELY ENOUGH AND GET THE WHOLE TOWN INTO A PANIC!


OH ME... OH MY! AND NOW EVERYONE THINKS THAT I REALLY MADE THE PREDICTIONS! NOW MY NAME IS REALLY MUD!

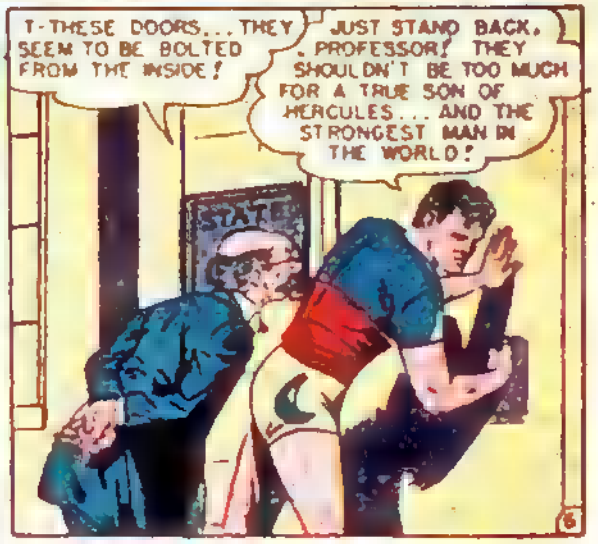

MUD! THAT'S IT... HOW COULD I BE SO BLIND? THAT MAN WE SAW IN THE AUDITORIUM... HE'S KURT MUDD, THE BROADWAY ACTOR! HE WAS INVOLVED IN THE HART DIAMOND CASE A SHORT TIME AGO.....

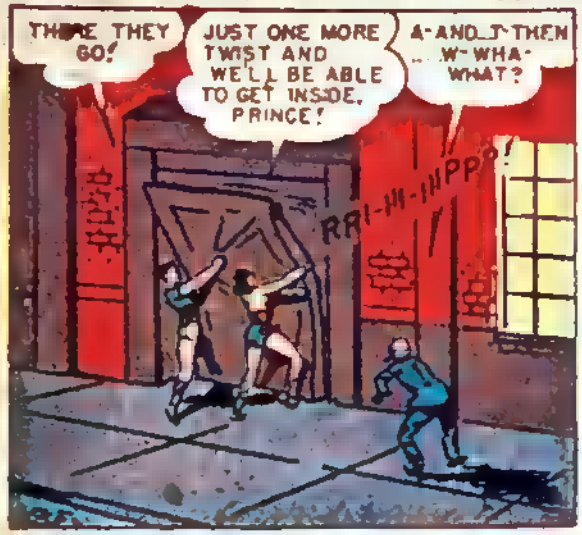

...AND UNLESS I MISS MY GUESS HE'S INVOLVED IN THIS CASE TOO, AS THE MASTER MAKE-UP MAN, DISGUISED TO LOOK LIKE THE PROFESSOR HERE...

BY THE POWER OF JUPITER, O MOONSTONE... LEAD ME TO KURT MUDD...

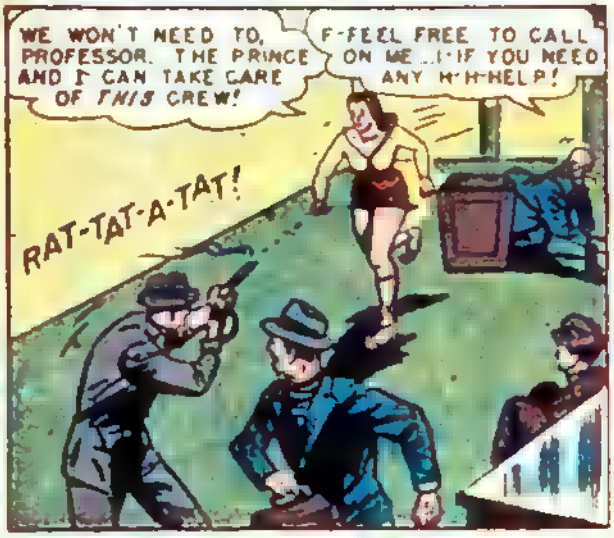

T-THE MOONSTONE IS MOVING... TOWARD THE... SOUTH SIDE OF TOWN!
...WHICH THE AUTHORITIES HAVE LEFT UNDEFENDED!

I-IT'S STOPPING... RIGHT AT THE DOORS OF THE STATE BANK!
I THINK I HEAR CLANKING NOISES INSIDE... LET'S INVESTIGATE MOON GIRL!

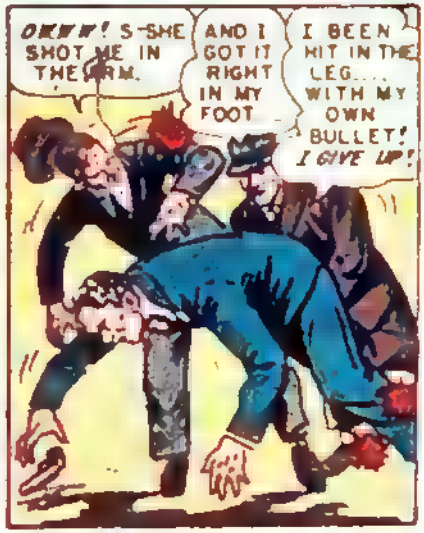

T-THESE DOORS... THEY SEEM TO BE BOLTED FROM THE INSIDE!
JUST STAND BACK, PROFESSOR! THEY SHOULDN'T BE TOO MUCH FOR A TRUE SON OF HERCULES... AND THE STRONGEST MAN IN THE WORLD!
STATE

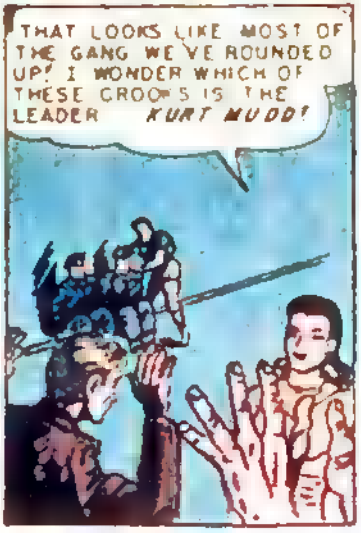

THERE THEY GO!
JUST ONE MORE TWIST AND WE'LL BE ABLE TO GET INSIDE, PRINCE!
A-AND_I-THEN ... W-WHA-WHAT?
RRI-NI-NIPP!

THEN WE'ROUND UP THE GANG THAT PLANNED THIS WHOLE SERIES OF PECULIAR INCIDENTS! ALL LEADING UP TO THE BIGGEST ROBBERY IN THE HISTORY OF THE STATE!
B-BUT... SHOULDN'T WE CALL THE P-POLICE?


WE WON'T NEED TO, PROFESSOR. THE PRINCE AND I CAN TAKE CARE OF THIS CREW!
F-FEEL FREE TO CALL ON ME ...I-IF YOU NEED ANY H-H-HELP!
RAT-TAT-A-TAT!

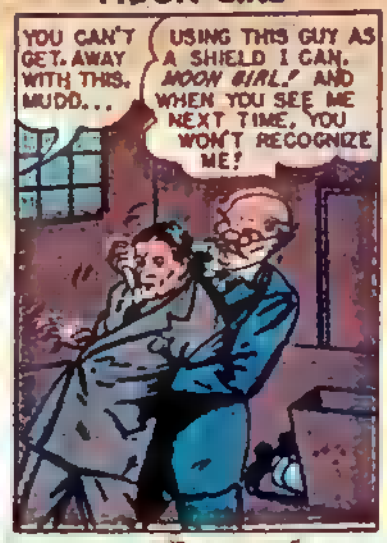
THANKS, PROFESSOR MOONBEAM BUT I THINK THAT WE CAN MANAGE WITHOUT YOU! NICE OF THESE BOYS TO FURNISH ME WITH AMMUNITION... WHICH I CAN THROW BACK!

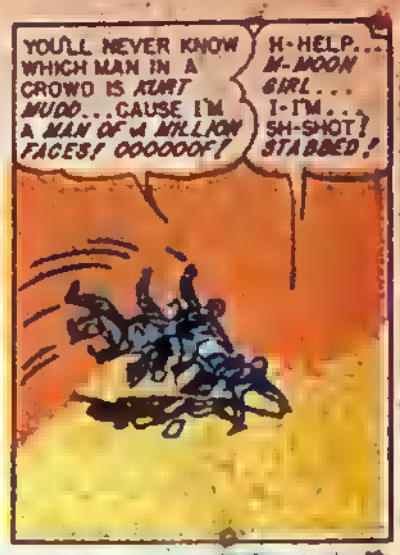

OKWW! S-SHE SHOT ME IN THE ARM.
AND I GOT IT RIGHT IN MY FOOT.
I BEEN HIT IN THE LEG.... WITH MY OWN BULLET! I GIVE UP!

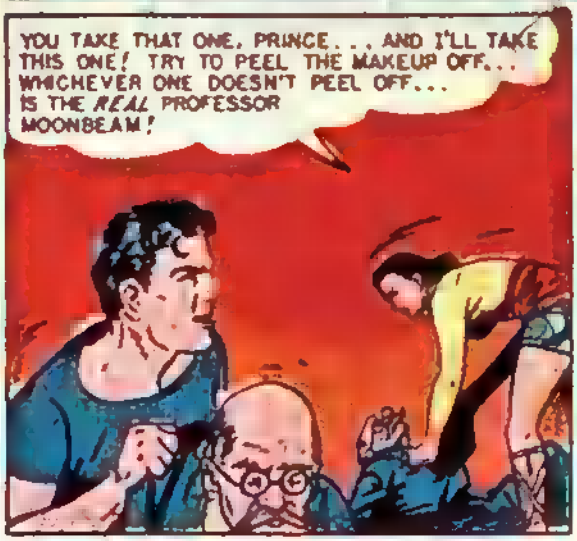

THAT LOOKS LIKE MOST OF THE GANG WE'VE ROUNDED UP! I WONDER WHICH OF THESE CROOKS IS THE LEADER KURT MUDD!

HERE, MOON GIRL... AT YOUR SERVICE! BUT YOU'LL HAVE TO CATCH ME FIRST. AND THAT WON'T BE SO EASY!
H-HE'S JUMPING... FROM THE BALCONY!

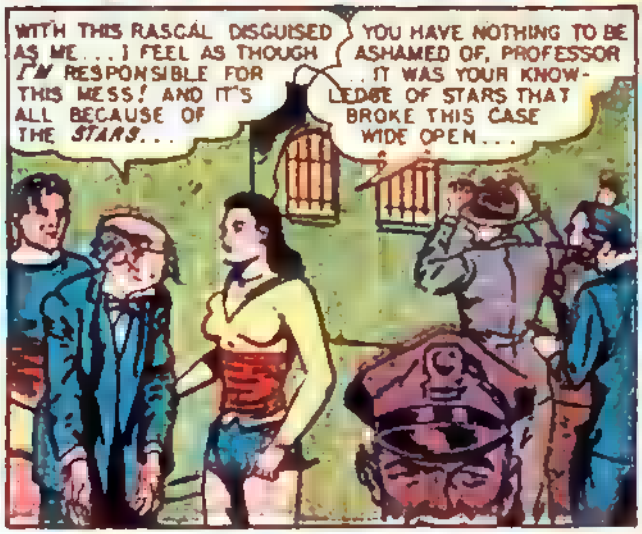
ONE MOVE OUT OF EITHER OF YOU... AND I SLIT THIS BANK GUARD'S THROAT, UNDERSTAND!

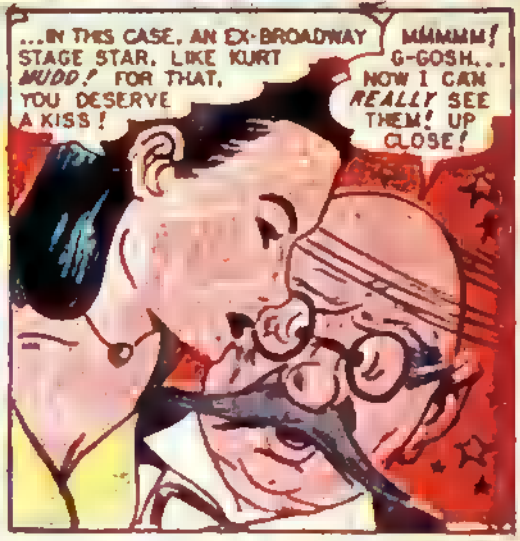

YOU CAN'T GET AWAY WITH THIS, MUDD...
USING THIS GUY AS A SHIELD I CAN, MOON GIRL! AND WHEN YOU SEE ME NEXT TIME, YOU WON'T RECOGNIZE ME!


YOU'LL NEVER KNOW WHICH MAN IN A CROWD IS KURT MUDD... CAUSE I'M A MAN OF A MILLION FACES! OOOOOOF!
H-HELP... M-MOON GIRL... I-I'M... SH-SHOT! STABBED!


YOU TAKE THAT ONE, PRINCE... AND I'LL TAKE THIS ONE! TRY TO PEEL THE MAKEUP OFF... WHICHEVER ONE DOESN'T PEEL OFF... IS THE REAL PROFESSOR MOONBEAM!

THIS ONE IS KURT MUDD... YOU MUST HAVE THE REAL PROFESSOR MOONBEAM, PRINCE!
OWWW! TAKE IT EASY, YOUNG MAN... I'VE HAD THAT NOSE ALL MY LIFE!
AND HERE COME THE POLICE... IN TIME TO MAKE THE ARREST!


WITH THIS RASCAL DISGUISED AS ME... I FEEL AS THOUGH I'M RESPONSIBLE FOR THIS MESS! AND IT'S ALL BECAUSE OF THE STARS...
YOU HAVE NOTHING TO BE ASHAMED OF, PROFESSOR ... IT WAS YOUR KNOWLEDGE OF STARS THAT BROKE THIS CASE WIDE OPEN...


...IN THIS CASE, AN EX-BROADWAY STAGE STAR, LIKE KURT MUDD! FOR THAT, YOU DESERVE A KISS!
MMMMM! G-GOSH... NOW I CAN REALLY SEE THEM! UP CLOSE!

OUT OF THE GRAVE

THE Thing stirred slowly, the dirt against its mouth and body. It pushed upward, clawing. Slowly the earth gave way, and clean fresh air seeped down into the shallow grave . . .

He got to his feet clumsily. Stood erect in the moonlight, seeing the trees all around him, hearing the croaking of the bullfrogs by the lakeshore. The wind rustled his rotting garments. He lifted his head, stood listening. He could not hear that cry now. But down there, down in that shallow grave where he had lain for weeks, he had heard a scream. A scream that made him seek the open air.

He was dead. He knew that. But inside him there was a power that let him move, that stirred his rotting legs and arms, that let his sightless eyes see and his shredded ears hear.

Who was he? He did not remember his name, or anything about himself. The fact that he could see and walk, that something had summoned him, was all he could know.

He moved forward at a stumbling walk. He must find whatever it was that brought him back from the dead, that made him walk the earth again, a horrible figment from a distorted nightmare.

When he came to the lake, he stared at his reflection in the limpid, still waters. He had no nose, and bits of flesh clung here and there to whitened skull that was beginning to show through. Where his eyes should have been, there were only twin black hollows. And his teeth gleamed white and hungry, because he had no lips.

He lifted his head. This time he heard it. A scream!

He started straight toward it, walking into the cold water, not feeling it. He stumbled over submerged logs and rocks, but he kept walking at that slow, steady pace. Stumbling forward, always moving.

* * *

THE man tied a gag around her lips so she could not scream again. He said, "It's all over, Marie. No sense yelling. No one can hear you in these woods. That's why my little cabin here comes in so handy. I -ah- write finish to a few of my better jobs."

"Jim," the girl whimpered, arching her neck to avoid the gag. "Jim will save me. You can't kill me . . . Jim will save me."

The man laughed. "Jim is dead, Marie. I killed him. I cut his head half in two with an axe! I had to get rid of him first. He's so big and strong — if I hadn't finished him, maybe I couldn't get rid of you. He would come after me . . . try to get revenge. This way, it's safe."

"Jim said he would protect me. That . . . wherever he was . . . he would know when I was in danger and come to save me!"

The man tied the gag so she could not speak again. Her wrists and legs were tied to a heavy log chair. The man stood back and nodded.

"With you out of the way, Marie, your inheritance will revert to me, your cousin. It will be very legal. I will wait seven years and have you declared legally dead. In the meantime, I will enjoy the estate as its trustee. I will not hurry. I am not too greedy. No one will ever know I killed you!"

The man went to a cool stove and lifted out a pine branch smeared with pitch. The branch was flaming, the red tongues of fire casting a scarlet glow around the room. He went and touched the blazing branch to the tiny bed, to the rug on the floor and the curtains on the window. The room caught fire. It swirled up, hot and eager, eating the logs and the furniture. He had prepared well. Everything was drenched in kerosene.

The man tossed the burning tree-limb on the floor. He backed out the door, stood there a minute, watching the fire leap and roar.

"Two and a half million dollars," he said to the wide-eyed, almost fainting girl. "That's what I'm getting out of this. I buried your Jim a few miles back in the densest part of these woods. Maybe the fire I'm starting will burn him too . . . because the woods will go up like paper!"

The heat was awful. The man turned and ran.

From the fringe of the trees, he saw the Thing coming at its stumbling, shambling gait. The Thing was looking at the burning cabin. It did not see him. The man put his hands over his mouth. He was sick. He whispered, "Jim . . ."

• • •

THE Thing went into the fire. He did not feel it licking at his clothes, at his rotting flesh. He was dead. He could not feel anything.

There! Right in front of him. He did not know the girl had fainted mercifully just before he came in the door. He did not remember who the girl was. All he knew was that a long time ago, in a different world, he had promised that no harm would come to her!

He picked the girl up, chair and all. He turned and went toward the door. His clothes flamed. His hair was gone. Even the dried strips of flesh still clinging to his body were charred. Here and there a white bit of bone protruded. Where the fire had touched the bone, it was black and scorched.

The man crouching in the underbrush screamed and screamed. He screamed as the Thing put the girl down far away from the fire. He screamed as the Thing turned its fleshless face toward him. He screamed and tried to flee as the Thing shambled toward him.

The Thing picked him up and held him clutched to the rotting chest. He went at his steady, remorseless pace, onward and onward, through the forest, carrying the man who would have inherited two and a half million dollars.

The man tried to fight, but the Thing was strong. He held the man easily.

He was still holding him when he came back to the grave. The Thing fell on top of the man, pinned him in the grave with his heavy weight.

And the Thing began, with one rotting hand, to fill the grave with loosened dirt, burying them both.

It did not take long to fill the grave. Before long, there would be two dead men in it. It was nice to have company down here where everything was cold and black.

After a while the screaming stopped. . . .

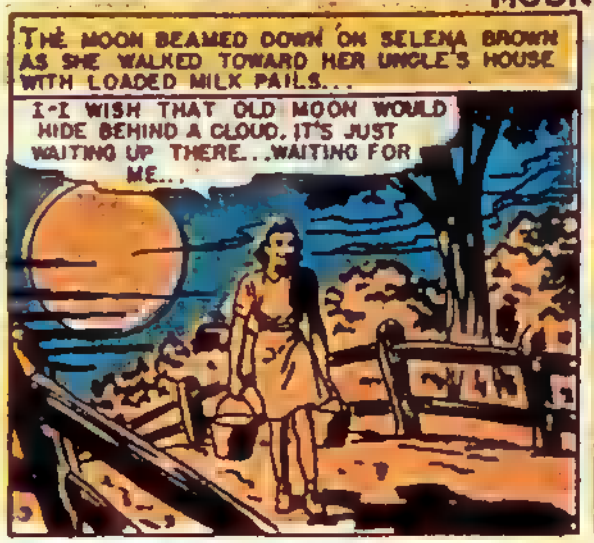
MOON GIRL and The Prince

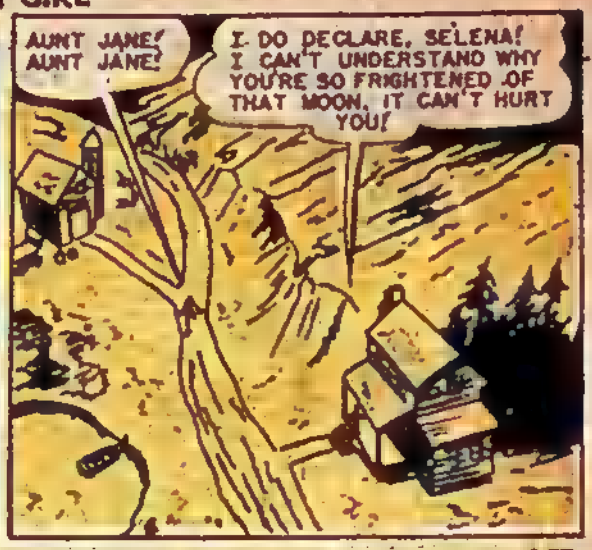
LITTLE SELENA BROWN WAS AFRAID OF THE MOON. IT WAS BRIGHT AND BIG, AND ALWAYS IN HER THOUGHTS. TO HER CHILDISH IMAGINATION, IT SEEMED TO WANT HER TO—DO SOMETHING! EVEN IN HER DREAMS, THE MOON CAME AND SPOKE TO HER! AND THEN, ONE STRANGE NIGHT IN THE ATTIC, SELENA LEARNED THE TRUTH ABOUT HERSELF AND THE MOON!

IN THE FACE OF THE EVIL THAT FELL ON LITTLE SELENA, ONLY THE GALLANT LUNAR LADY, *MOON GIRL*, POSSESSED THE MAGIC STRENGTH TO STAND WITH HER AGAINST—

"THE MENACE FROM THE MOON!"

MOON GIRL

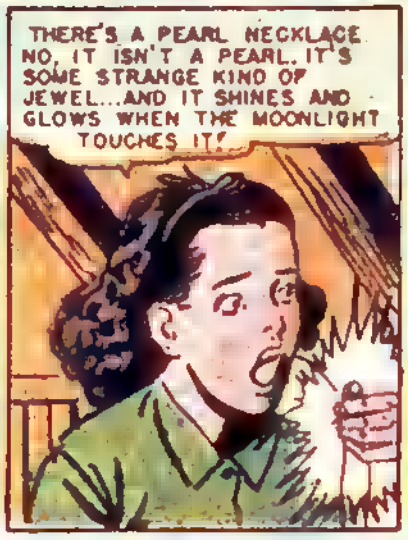

THE MOON BEAMED DOWN ON SELENA BROWN AS SHE WALKED TOWARD HER UNCLE'S HOUSE WITH LOADED MILK PAILS...
I-I WISH THAT OLD MOON WOULD HIDE BEHIND A CLOUD. IT'S JUST WAITING UP THERE...WAITING FOR ME...


AUNT JANE! AUNT JANE!
I DO DECLARE, SELENA! I CAN'T UNDERSTAND WHY YOU'RE SO FRIGHTENED OF THAT MOON. IT CAN'T HURT YOU!

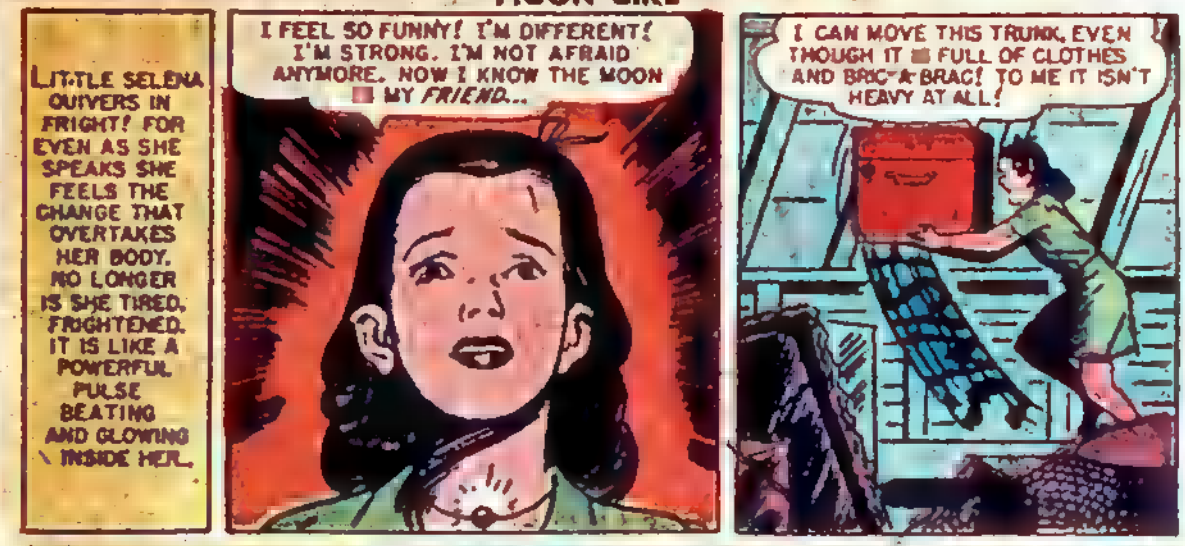
MAYBE IT CAN'T HURT ME, BUT IT KEEPS TELLING ME TO DO SOMETHING...IT EXPECTS SOMETHING FROM ME! BUT WHAT? WHAT?

AND THEN, ONE NIGHT—
STRAIGHTEN UP THE ATTIC, DEAR. WE HAVE TO CLEAN THAT BEFORE WE TACKLE THE FALL HOUSE-CLEANING!
YES, AUNT JANE.

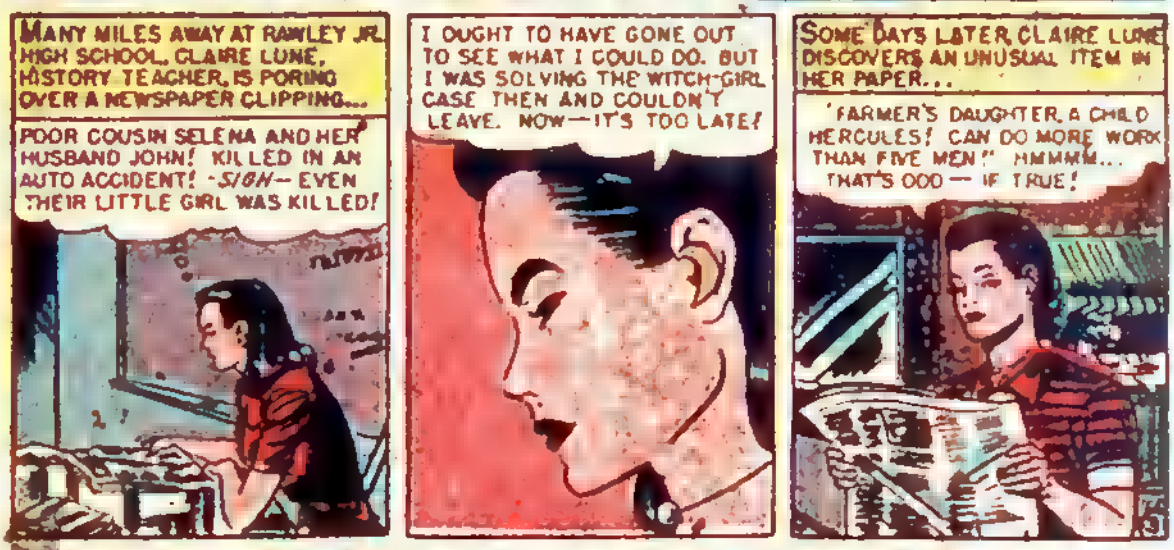
OOHHH! WHAT'S THIS BOX? WHY, IT HAS MY NAME ON IT. I NEVER SAW THIS BEFORE!

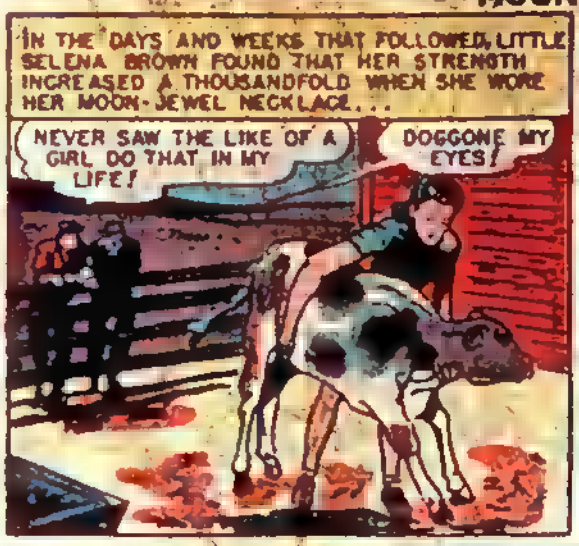

THERE'S A PEARL NECKLACE. NO, IT ISN'T A PEARL. IT'S SOME STRANGE KIND OF JEWEL...AND IT SHINES AND GLOWS WHEN THE MOONLIGHT TOUCHES IT!

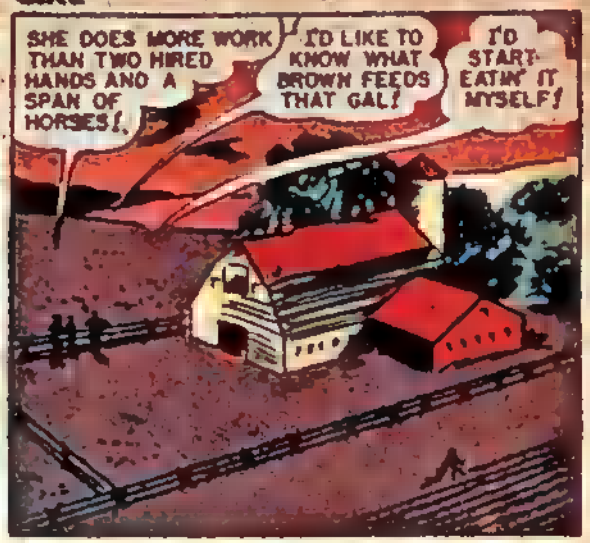
MUM! I WISH IT WOULD DO ME SOME GOOD—LIKE GIVING ME THE STRENGTH TO CLEAN UP THIS ATTIC!


LITTLE SELENA QUIVERS IN FRIGHT! FOR EVEN AS SHE SPEAKS SHE FEELS THE CHANGE THAT OVERTAKES HER BODY. NO LONGER IS SHE TIRED, FRIGHTENED. IT IS LIKE A POWERFUL PULSE BEATING AND GLOWING INSIDE HER.
I FEEL SO FUNNY! I'M DIFFERENT! I'M STRONG. I'M NOT AFRAID ANYMORE. NOW I KNOW THE MOON MY FRIEND...
I CAN MOVE THIS TRUNK, EVEN THOUGH IT FULL OF CLOTHES AND BRIC-A-BRAC! TO ME IT ISN'T HEAVY AT ALL!

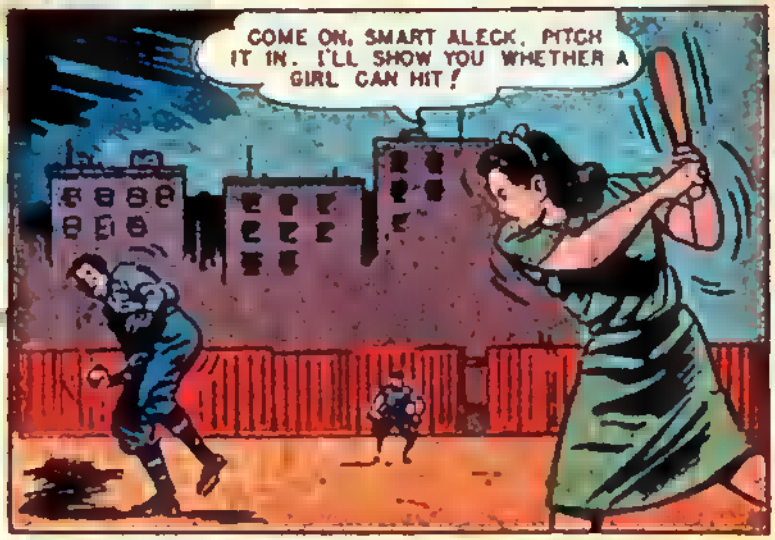
WITH A SONG ON HER LIPS, LITTLE SELENA QUICKLY CLEANS THE ATTIC. IT NOT WORK, BUT SORT OF PLAY...
WHY, MY GOODNESS! SELENA—DID YOU DO ALL THIS YOURSELF?
LAND O' GOSHEN! I'D NEVER HAVE BELIEVED IT IF I HADN'T BEEN UP HERE THIS AFTERNOON AND SEEN THE ATTIC THE WAY IT WAS!


MANY MILES AWAY AT RAWLEY JR. HIGH SCHOOL, CLAIRE LUNE, HISTORY TEACHER, IS PORING OVER A NEWSPAPER CLIPPING...
POOR COUSIN SELENA AND HER HUSBAND JOHN! KILLED IN AN AUTO ACCIDENT! -SIGH- EVEN THEIR LITTLE GIRL WAS KILLED!
I OUGHT TO HAVE GONE OUT TO SEE WHAT I COULD DO. BUT I WAS SOLVING THE WITCH-GIRL CASE THEN AND COULDN'T LEAVE. NOW—IT'S TOO LATE!
SOME DAYS LATER, CLAIRE LUNE DISCOVERS AN UNUSUAL ITEM IN HER PAPER...
"FARMER'S DAUGHTER, A CHILD HERCULES! CAN DO MORE WORK THAN FIVE MEN!" HMMMM... THAT'S ODD — IF TRUE!


IN THE DAYS AND WEEKS THAT FOLLOWED, LITTLE SELENA BROWN FOUND THAT HER STRENGTH INCREASED A THOUSANDFOLD WHEN SHE WORE HER MOON-JEWEL NECKLACE...
NEVER SAW THE LIKE OF A GIRL DO THAT IN MY LIFE!
DOGGONE MY EYES!


SHE DOES MORE WORK THAN TWO HIRED HANDS AND A SPAN OF HORSES!
I'D LIKE TO KNOW WHAT BROWN FEEDS THAT GAL!
I'D START EATIN' IT MYSELF!

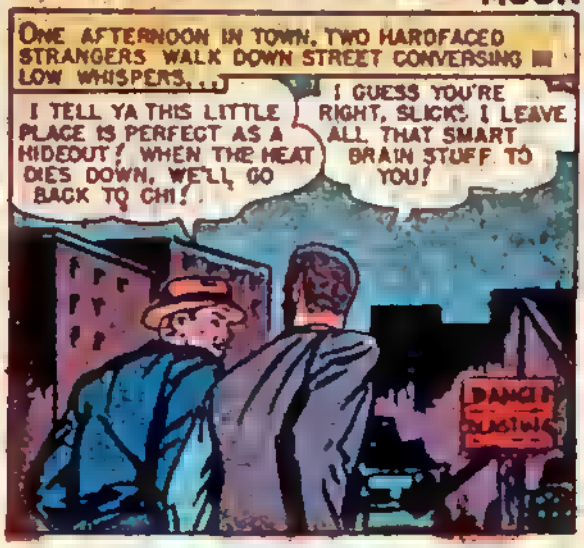
AT SCHOOL...
G'WAN, MARY JANE! BASEBALL IS ONLY FOR BOYS! GIRLS CAN'T HIT!
OH, IS THAT SO, TEDDY BARRATT?


COME ON, SMART ALECK. PITCH IT IN. I'LL SHOW YOU WHETHER A GIRL CAN HIT!

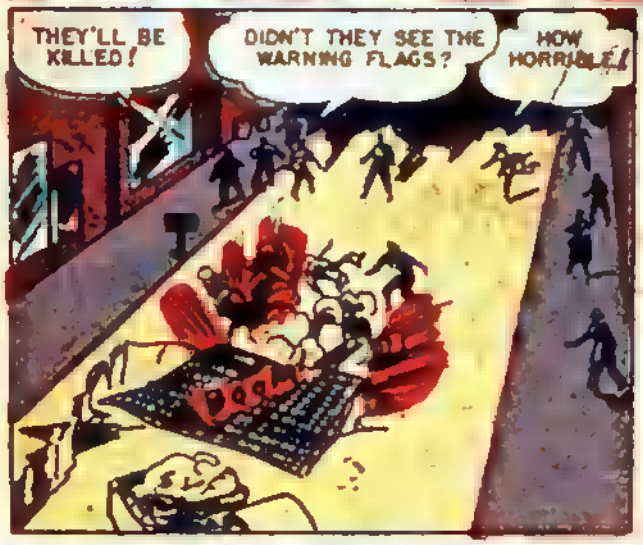
WOW!
NOBODY EVER HIT A BALL THAT FAR!
WE BETTER GET HER ON OUR TEAM, FELLAS!

WILL YA SELENA?
BE ON OUR TEAM NEXT SATURDAY!
WE'LL HAVE SOMEBODY DO YOUR CHORES FOR YOU!

MILES AWAY—
ANOTHER STORY ABOUT THAT FARM GIRL, SELENA BROWN. SELENA? HMMM... IT'S SIMILAR TO SELENE, THE MOON GODDESS! ODD...


ONE AFTERNOON IN TOWN, TWO HARDFACED STRANGERS WALK DOWN STREET CONVERSING IN LOW WHISPERS...
I TELL YA THIS LITTLE PLACE IS PERFECT AS A HIDEOUT! WHEN THE HEAT DIES DOWN, WE'LL GO BACK TO CHI!
I GUESS YOU'RE RIGHT, SLICKS. I LEAVE ALL THAT SMART BRAIN STUFF TO YOU!
DANCE PLASTON

SUDDENLY—
BAROOOOM!


THEY'LL BE KILLED!
DIDN'T THEY SEE THE WARNING FLAGS?
HOW HORRIBLE!

HELP! HELP!
AAAAOOOOH!

YOU'LL BE ALL RIGHT!
WHY, IT'S A KID!
HUH?

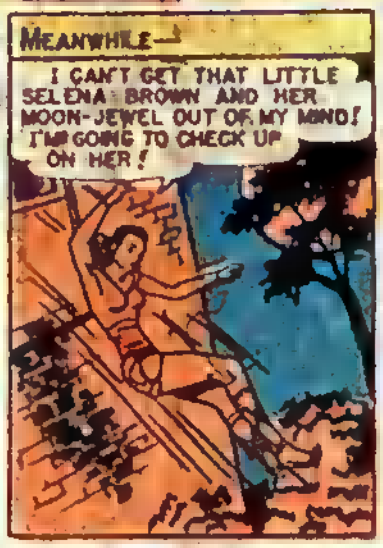
BOY, THEM COUNTRY GIRLS SURE ARE STRONG. SHE SAVED OUR LIVES!
TOO STRONG, BENNY! NO HUMAN BEING IS THAT STRONG. I'M GONNA MAKE FRIENDS WITH HER...

DAY AFTER DAY, SLICK SINGTON GREETED SELENA WITH CANDY AND A SMILE
FOR ME?
SURE, KID. ALL FOR YOU! YOU SAVED OUR LIVES, DIDN'T YOU?

ONE DAY, LITTLE SELENA BROWN EXPLAINED HER BIG SECRET...
THE MOON GIVES ME MY STRENGTH AND SPEED! IT FILLS THIS JEWEL WITH LIGHT — AND WHEN I WEAR THE JEWEL, I'M STRONG.
HULLY CHEE! JUST LIKE MOON GIRL!

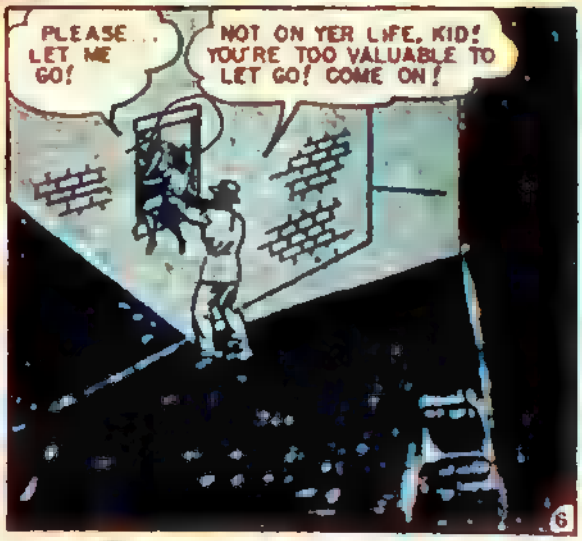
BENNY, WE'RE IN! THAT KID IS A YOUNG IMITATION OF MOON GIRL!
MOON GIRL! WE BETTER BEAT IT, SLICK!

RELAX, BENNY! THE KID IS GONNA WORK WITH US. HELP US ROB PLACES. SEE?
HEY, THAT'S OKAY, HUH, SLICK?


MEANWHILE —
I CAN'T GET THAT LITTLE SELENA BROWN AND HER MOON-JEWEL OUT OF MY MIND! I'M GOING TO CHECK UP ON HER!

AT THAT MOMENT —
YOU HEARD ME, KID. IF YOU DON'T DO LIKE I SAY — I'LL GET MY PAL BENNY TO HURT YOUR UNCLE AND AUNT!
OHHH... DON'T DO THAT! I'LL HELP YOU ROB THE BANK...

NEXT NIGHT, AT THE COHAXIE TOWN BANK...
HULLY CHEE! LOOKA HER, WILL YA!
CRAAACKK!

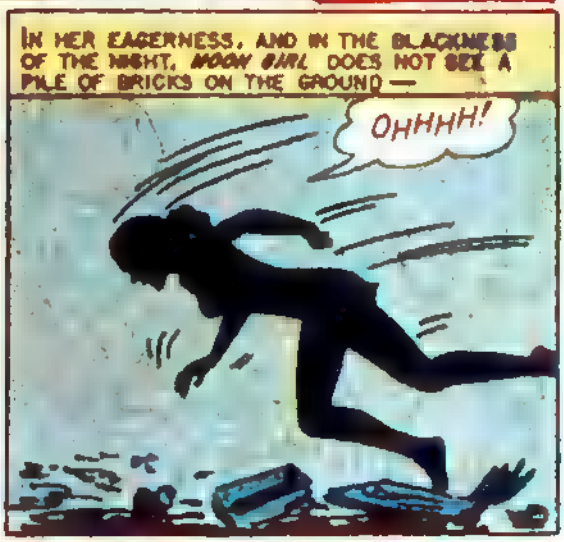

PLEASE... LET ME GO!
NOT ON YER LIFE, KID! YOU'RE TOO VALUABLE TO LET GO! COME ON!

A FEW MILES AWAY—
-SOB- SE-SELENA ISN'T HERE!
PLEASE COME IN. WE'RE WORRIED ABOUT HER. SHE HASN'T BEEN HOME FOR SOME TIME.

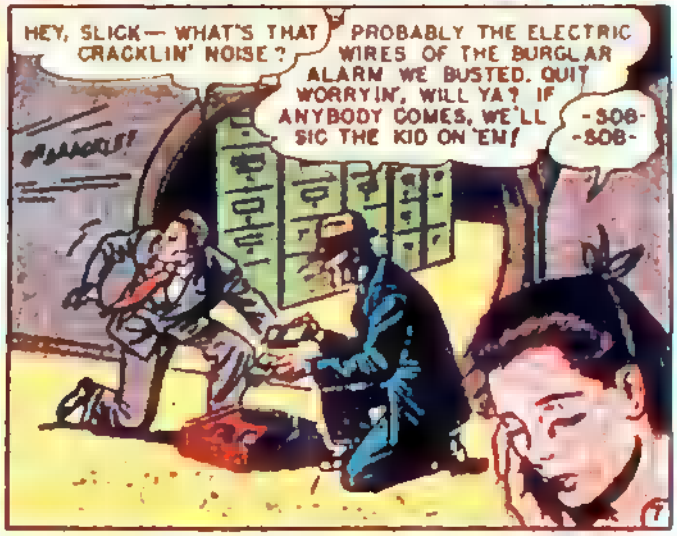
THIS BOX BELONGED TO MY AUNT! I RECOGNIZE IT!
SELENA IS AN ORPHAN. WE BROUGHT HER UP. WE DON'T KNOW HER REAL FOLKS... BUT WE LOVE HER VERY DEARLY!

BUT I KNOW HER FOLKS. SHE IS MY COUSIN! SHE WEARS A SMALL MOONSTONE. FIND HER, MAGIC MOONSTONE. FIND SELENA!

BY MARS! I ONLY HOPE THAT NOTHING HAS HAPPENED TO HER!


IN HER EAGERNESS, AND IN THE BLACKNESS OF THE NIGHT, MOON GIRL DOES NOT SEE A PILE OF BRICKS ON THE GROUND—
OHHHH!

AS THE LUNAR LADY LIES SENSELESS ON THE STREET, THE MOONSTONE DARTS FROM VIEW AND— DISAPPEARS!

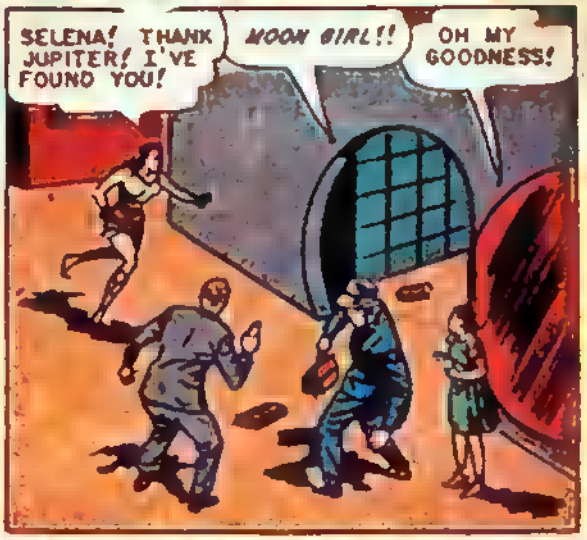

HEY, SLICK— WHAT'S THAT CRACKLIN' NOISE?
PROBABLY THE ELECTRIC WIRES OF THE BURGLAR ALARM WE BUSTED. QUIT WORRYIN', WILL YA? IF ANYBODY COMES, WE'LL SIC THE KID ON 'EM!
-SOB- -SOB-

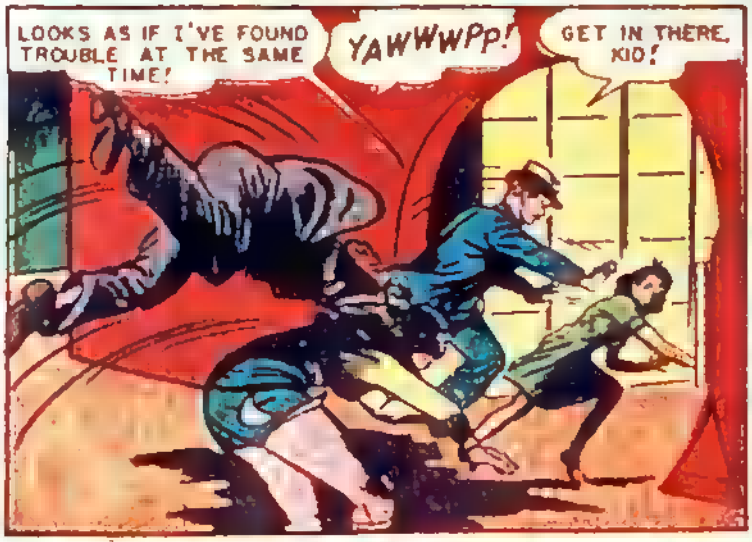
STUNNED, MOON GIRL RISES FROM THE PAVEMENT. HER HEART SHRINKS WITHIN HER. THE MOONSTONE IS NOWHERE IN SIGHT!
THE MOONSTONE WENT ON WITHOUT ME! AND WITHOUT IT—I CAN NEVER FIND SELENA!

PANIC-STRICKEN, SHE RACES FROM STREET TO STREET—
VENUS AID ME! I MUST FIND HER! I MUST! I MUST!

WHERE IS IT? WHERE DID IT GO?

THAT CRACKLING NOISE! I WONDER WHAT... OHHH! SOMEONE'S RIPPED THE BARS FROM THE BANK WINDOW!


SELENA! THANK JUPITER! I'VE FOUND YOU!
MOON GIRL!!
OH MY GOODNESS!


LOOKS AS IF I'VE FOUND TROUBLE AT THE SAME TIME!
YAWWWPP!
GET IN THERE, KID!

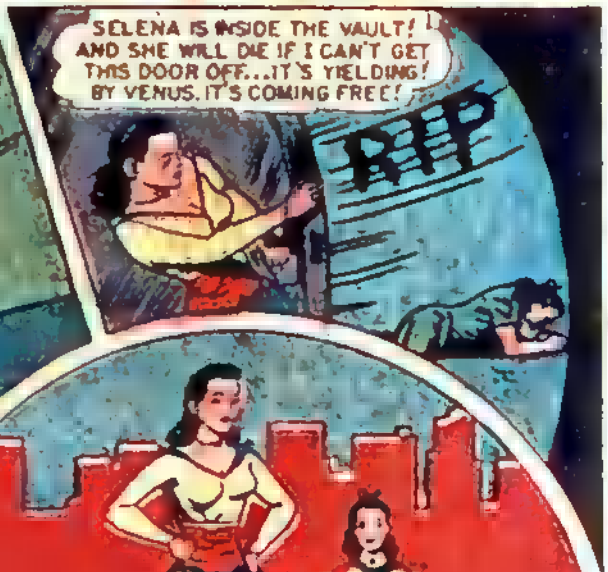
LET ME OUT! LET ME OUT! I-I CAN'T BREATHE SO WELL IN HERE...THERE ISN'T ANY AIR...I'M SUFFOCATING...LET ME... OUT...

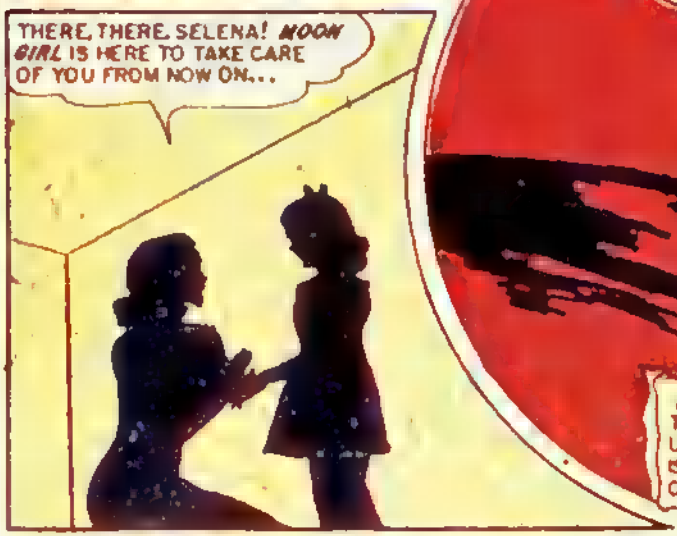
I REALLY OUGHT TO GO TO WORK ON YOU, YOU MISERABLE INSECT! MAKING POOR LITTLE SELENA BREAK IN HERE FOR YOU!
YEEEOOW!

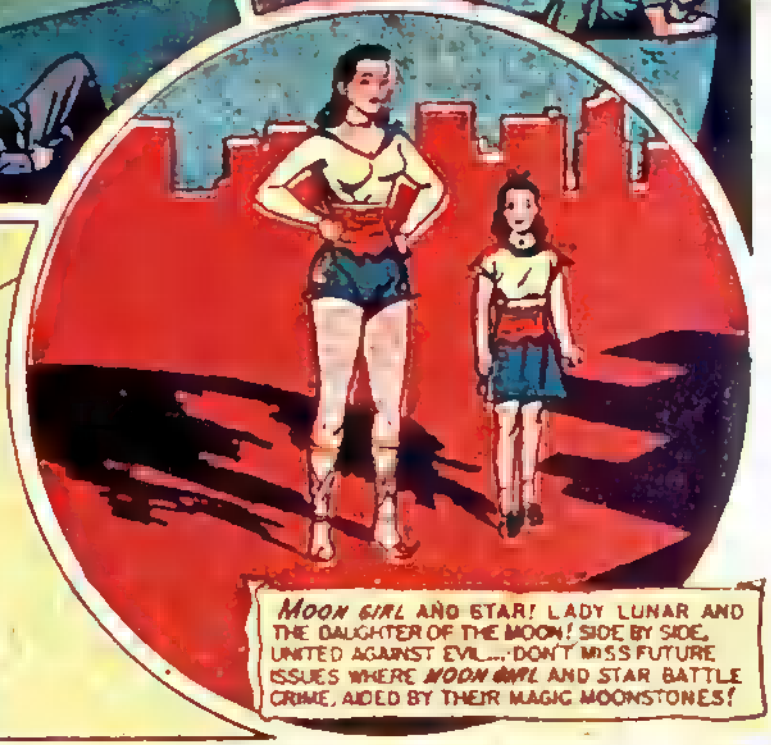
WE'LL TAKE YOU TO THE NEAREST JAIL. SELENA PROBABLY RAN HOME, SHE WAS SO FRIGHTENED...

BUT SELENA IS NOT HOME. SHE IS GASPING HER LIFE AWAY, ON THE FLOOR OF THE LOCKED BANK VAULT!
CAN'T BREATHE... ANYMORE...

WAIT! MY MOONSTONE..! IT CRACKLES AND HISSES! THAT MEANS IT IS NEAR SELENA'S LITTLE MOONSTONE!
GRUMMBLE!


SELENA IS INSIDE THE VAULT! AND SHE WILL DIE IF I CAN'T GET THIS DOOR OFF...IT'S YIELDING! BY VENUS, IT'S COMING FREE!
RIP


THERE, THERE, SELENA! MOON GIRL IS HERE TO TAKE CARE OF YOU FROM NOW ON...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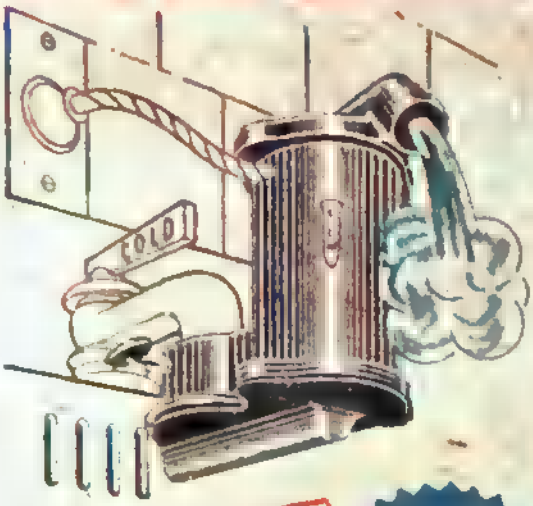

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Gentlemen: Rush me the 4 Big Values as shown C.O.D. for only $1.98 plus 15c tax and few cents postage charges. I must be delighted in every way with all 4 articles (Billfold, Flashlight, Pen and Key Holder) else satisfied that I have made a real saving or I can return my purchase within 10 days for full refund.

Give the one INITIAL wanted on Key Holder

NAME .....

ADDRESS.....

CITY.....ZONE..... STATE.....

☐ To save shipping charges I enclose $1.98 plus 15c tax in advance (total $2.13). Ship my order, as indicated, all postage charges prepaid

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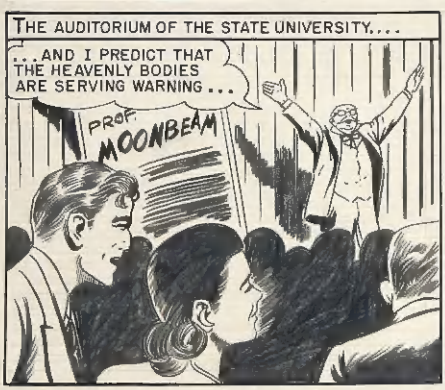
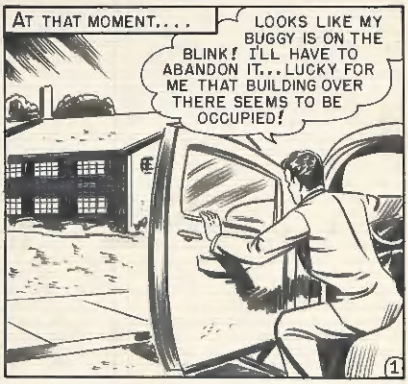
MOON GIRL

THIS APPEARED TO BE A TITANIC BATTLE AGAINST THE ELEMENTS IN WHICH *MOON GIRL* WAS ENGAGED! COULD SHE AND THE *PRINCE* SUCCESSFULLY PROTECT THE CITY OF RAWLEY FROM WHAT WAS WRITTEN IN THE COSMOS? WOULD SHE BE ABLE TO STAVE OFF THE FUTURE, AS PREDICTED BY..

"THE MAN WHO PLAYED WITH THE STARS!"





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P11

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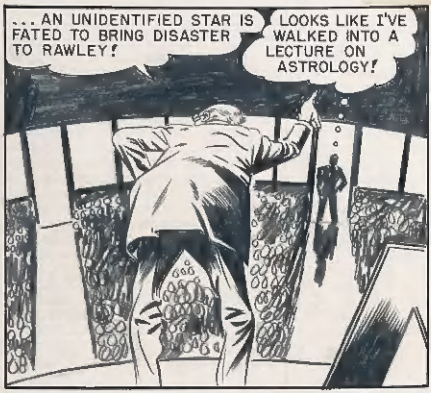

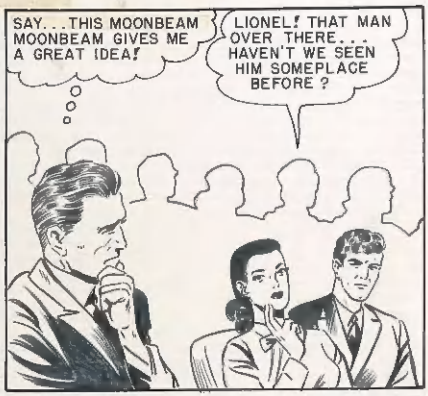

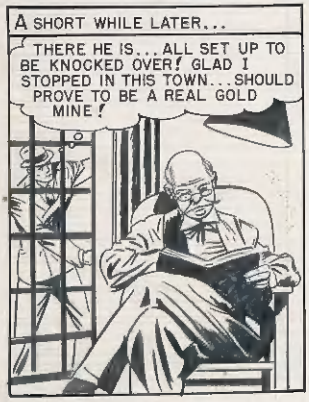

...TO PUT YOU OUT OF THE WAY FOR A SHORT WHILE! THIS PREDICTING THE FUTURE IS A GOOD RACKET YOU'VE GOT HERE...
...AND THERE'S NO REASON WHY A SMART COOKY LIKE KURT MUDD SHOULDN'T BE ABLE TO MAKE IT PAY OFF! PARTICULARLY SINCE I'M AN ACTOR WHO CAN PLAY ANY PART....
...AS WELL AS BEING FAMOUS AS THE MASTER MAKE-UP MAN! FIRST THING I'VE GOT TO DO IS CALL MY BOYS AND TELL 'EM TO HURRY OUT HERE!
W-WHAT'S THAT? FRONT DOOR BELL... HERE'S WHERE I'M PUT TO THE TEST! LUCKY I HEARD THIS GUY MOONBEAM LECTURING BEFORE.....
BUZZ! BUZZ!
OH...HELLO THERE! WON'T YOU COME INSIDE OUT OF RAIN... I'VE BEEN RESTING AFTER THE LECTURE... HEH HEH...
N-NO THANKS, PROFESSOR! WE JUST STOPPED BY TO SEE HOW YOU WERE.
HMMM...STRANGE HE DIDN'T INSIST WE STAY FOR AWHILE!
SOMETHING FUNNY ABOUT THIS...HE DIDN'T SEEM TO RECOGNIZE US! AND THAT LAUGH...
THE NEXT DAY, TURMOIL REIGNS THROUGHOUT RAWLEY....
WUXTRY! WUXTRY! CITY BUILDINGS BURN TO THE GROUND....PREDICTED BY PROFESSOR MOONBEAM OF STATE UNIVERSITY! WUXTRY!
HUH?
3

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4

MOON GIRL

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